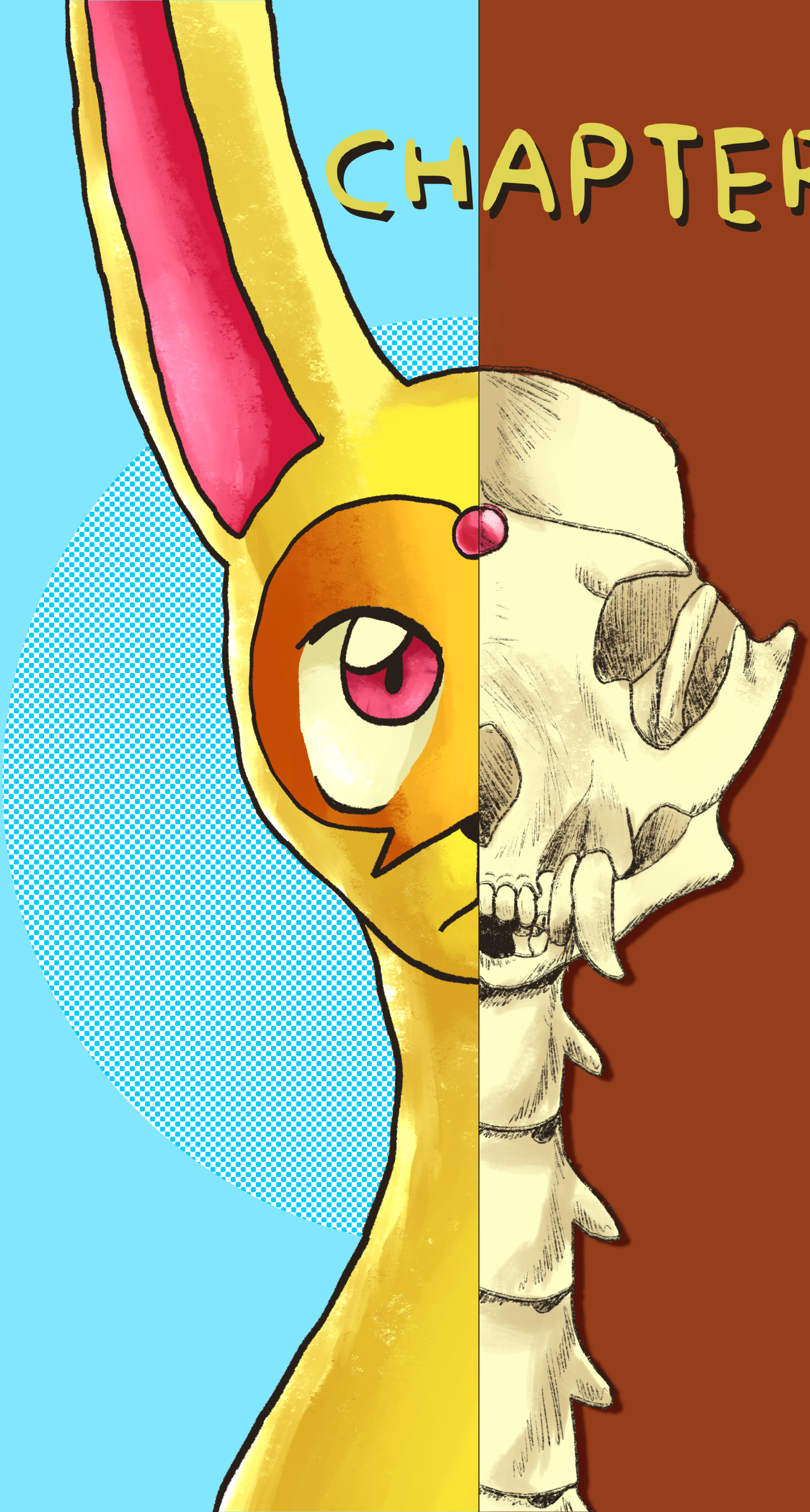
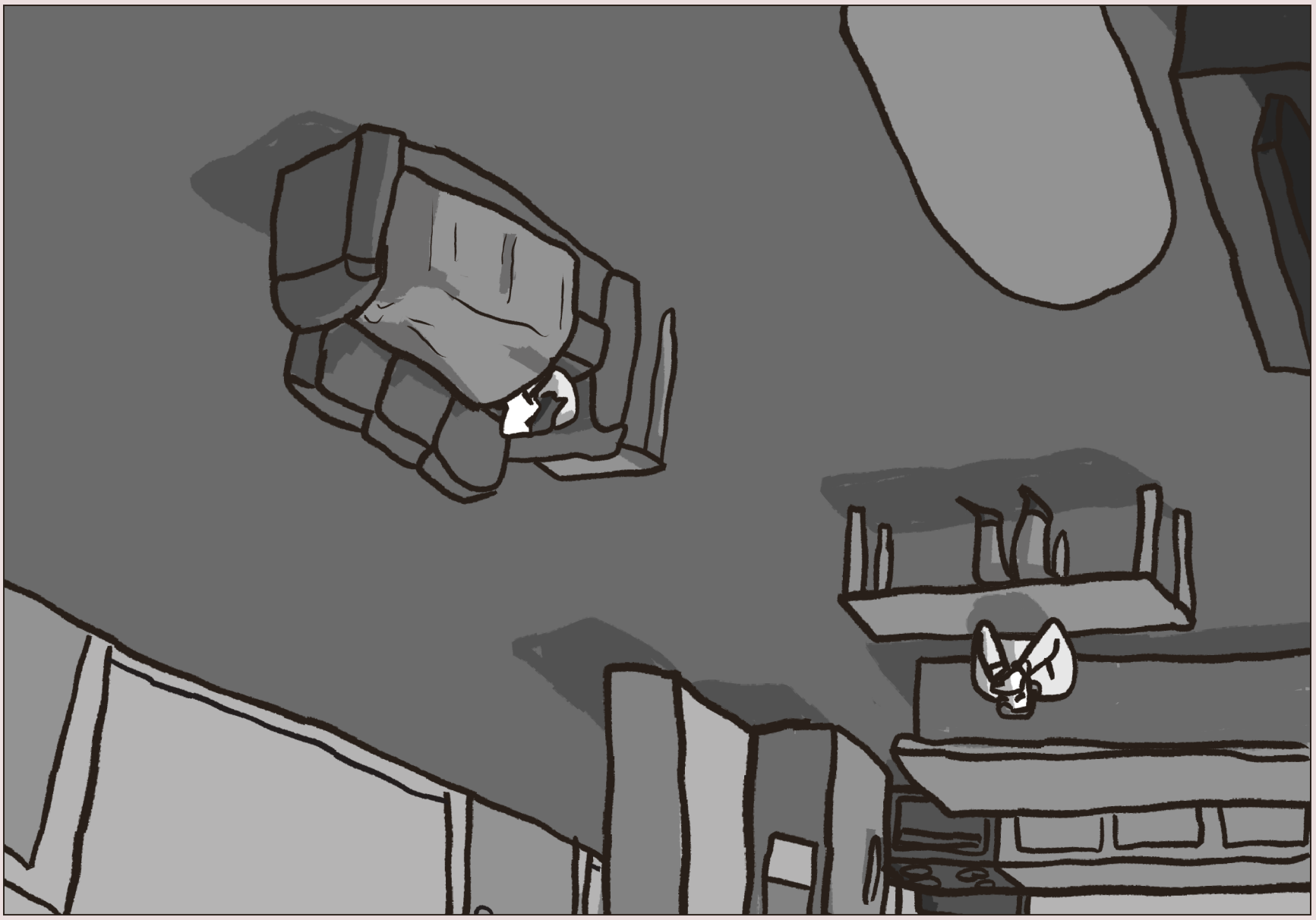
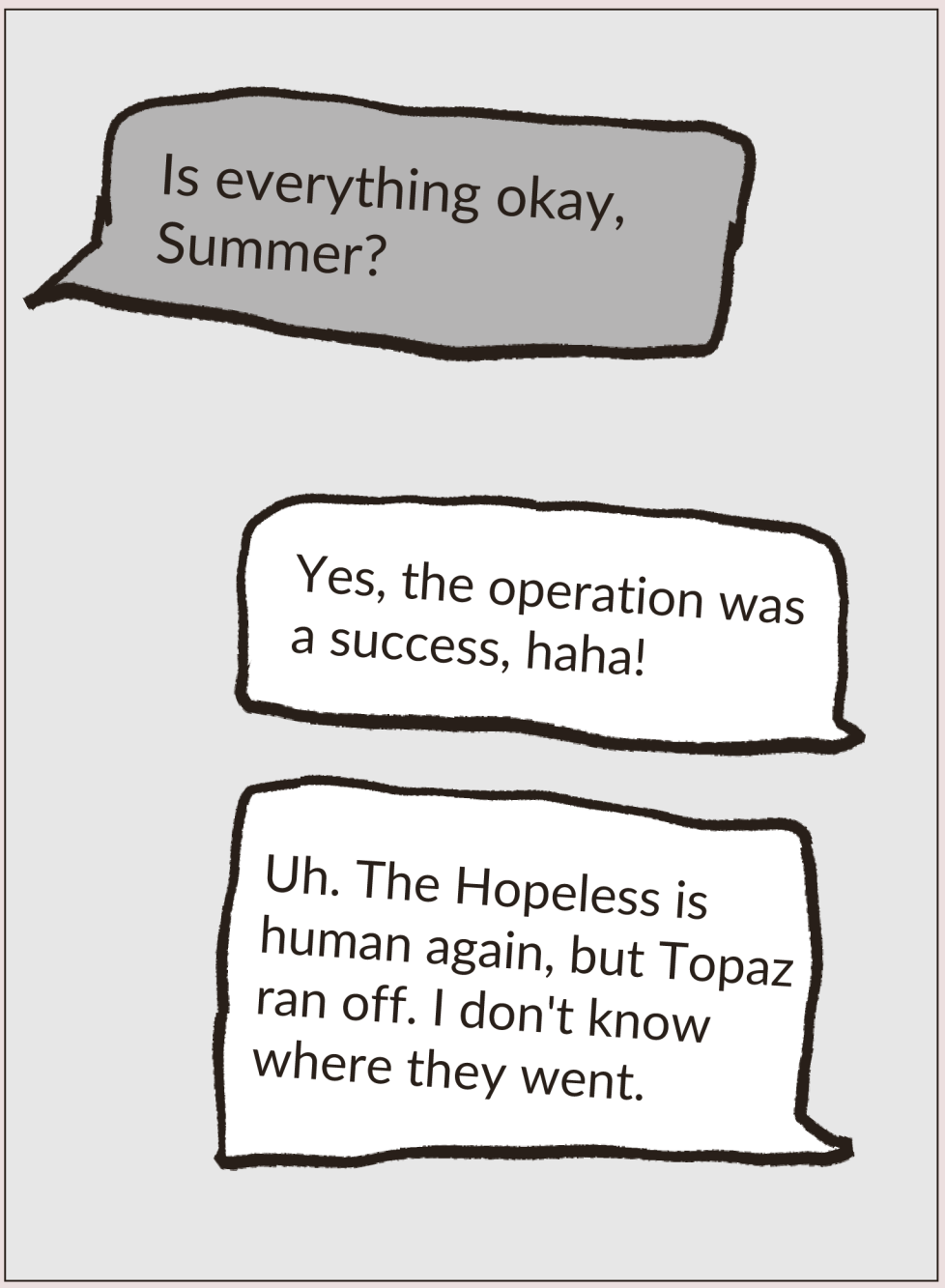
CHAPTER 8

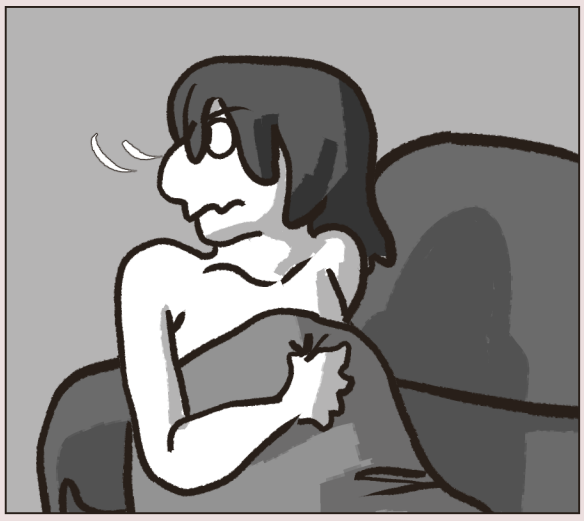





Is everything okay, Summer?
Yes, the operation was a success, haha!
Uh. The Hopeless is human again, but Topaz ran off. I don't know where they went.

Sophie
You just let them go??
I couldn't abandonfgd
???

WHAT...?
HEY, UH-



WH-WHO THE FUCK ARE YOU?

WHERE AM I?

M-MY NAME IS CYRUS. THIS IS MY APARTMENT-

HOW DID I GET HERE- I WAS- I WAS IN MY SPOT-

DID YOU FUCKING KIDNAP ME? HOLY SHIT, HOLY SHIT, I'M GONNA DIE-

NO! NO, NO, YOU'RE OKAY I- YOU'RE FREE TO LEAVE ANYTIME-

FUCK, WHY AM I NAKED-

WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU DO?

WHATEVER YOU'RE THINKING HAPPENED, ABSOLUTELY DID NOT!

SO WHAT DID, MOTHERFUCKER?

YOU CAN BORROW MY CLOTHES, YOURS- YOURS GOT DAMAGED.

DAMAGED?

WHAT DID YOU DO?!

NOTHING!!

LET'S CALM DOWN-

DO NOT TELL ME TO CALM DOWN RIGHT NOW, I'M NOT CALMING THE FUCK DOWN TILL YOU TELL ME WHAT THE FUCK YOU DID TO ME!

I SAVED YOUR LIFE!!

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER BEFORE THIS?

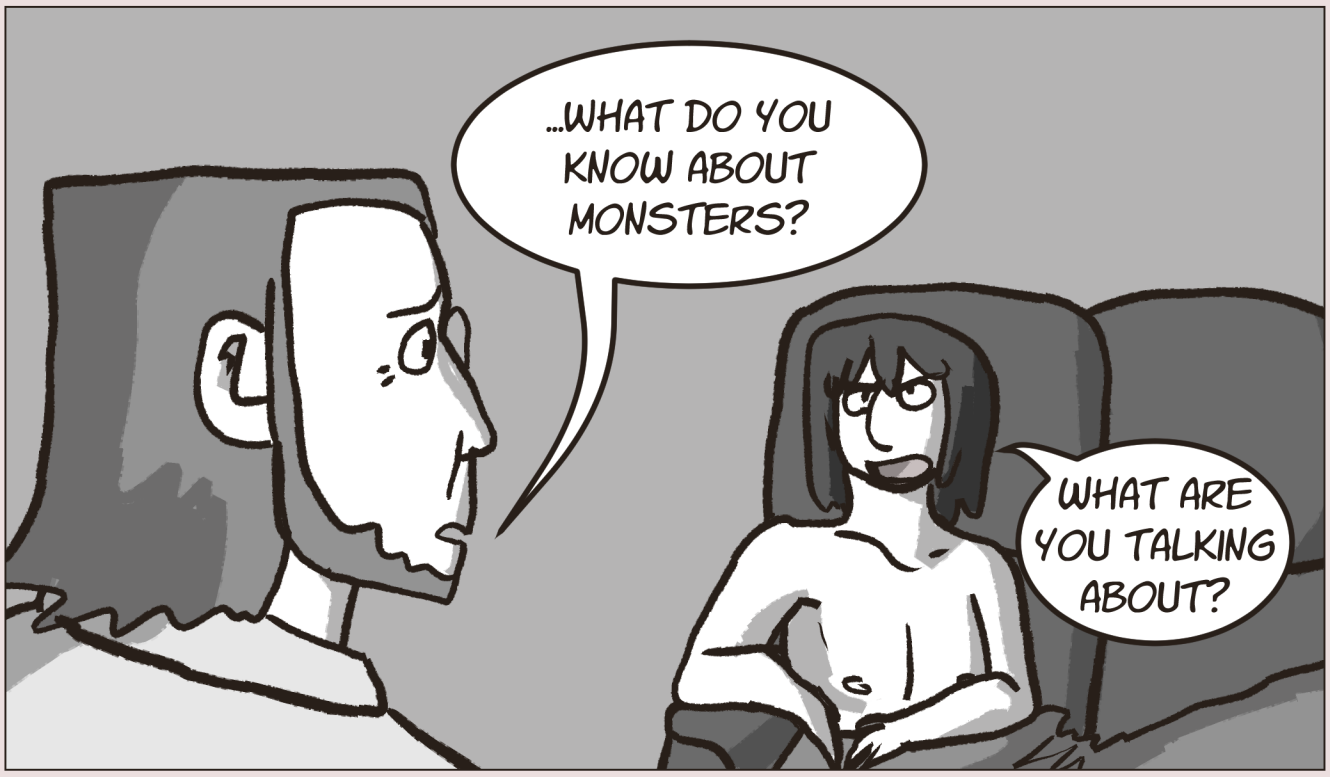
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO-

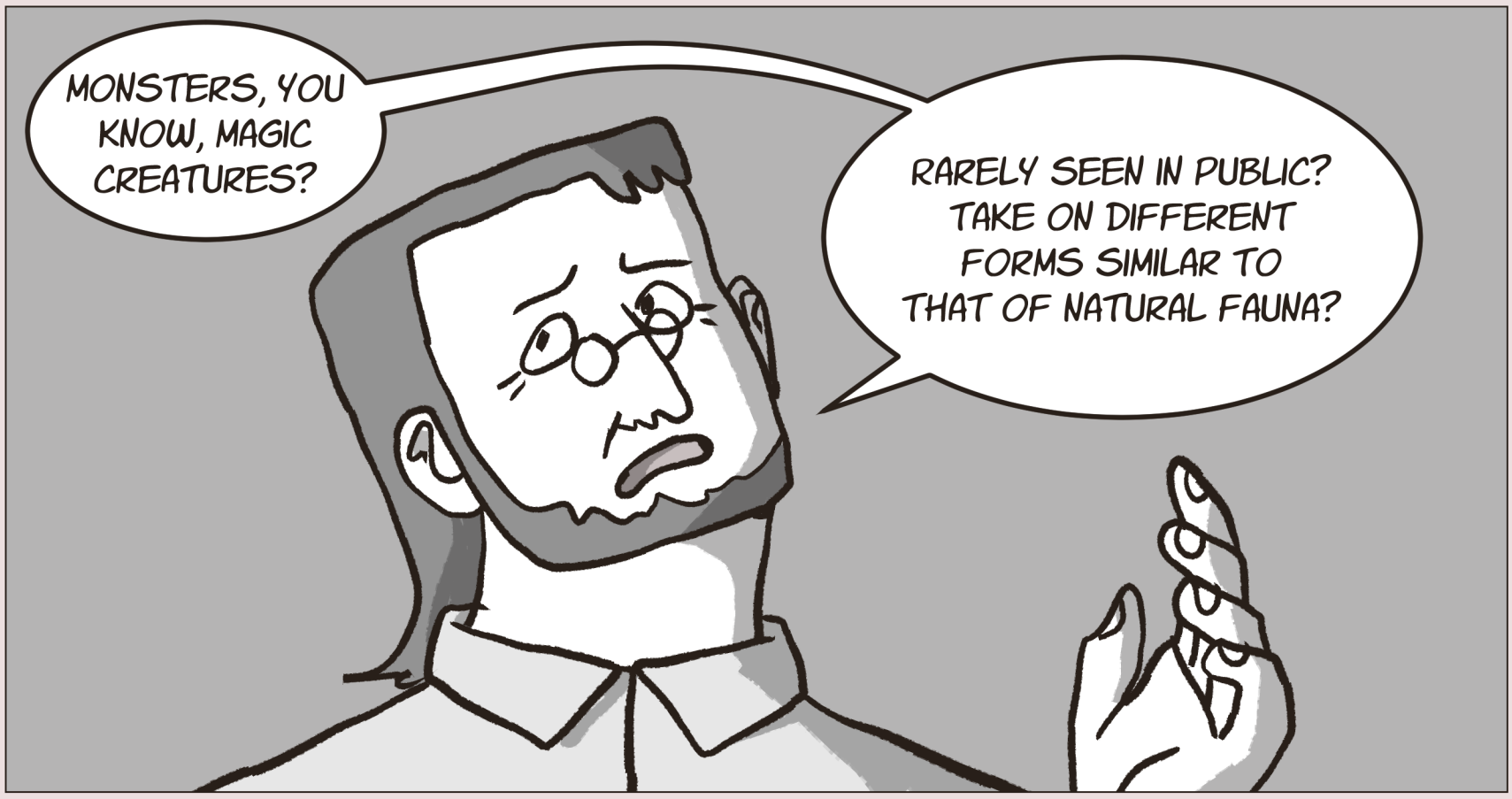
FUCK.

FUCK.

HOLY SHIT.

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?


...WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MONSTERS?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


MONSTERS, YOU KNOW, MAGIC CREATURES?
RARELY SEEN IN PUBLIC? TAKE ON DIFFERENT FORMS SIMILAR TO THAT OF NATURAL FAUNA?

MOTHERFUCKER, WHAT?
OKAY. MOVING ON.

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER, BEFORE YOU WOKE UP?

WAS IN MY SPOT. THEN I GOT THIS BAD HEADACHE.
AND THEN...
I DUNNO.

ANYTHING ELSE?

I DON'T NEED TO ANSWER TO YOU.

JUST... GIMME SOME SHIT TO WEAR. I'LL GO BACK TO MY SPOT, AND THIS NIGHT CAN FINALLY BE OVER.

"YOUR SPOT"? YOU KEEP SAYING THAT. YOU MEAN THE ALLEY?

YEAH, DUDE.

I GOT NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

OH.

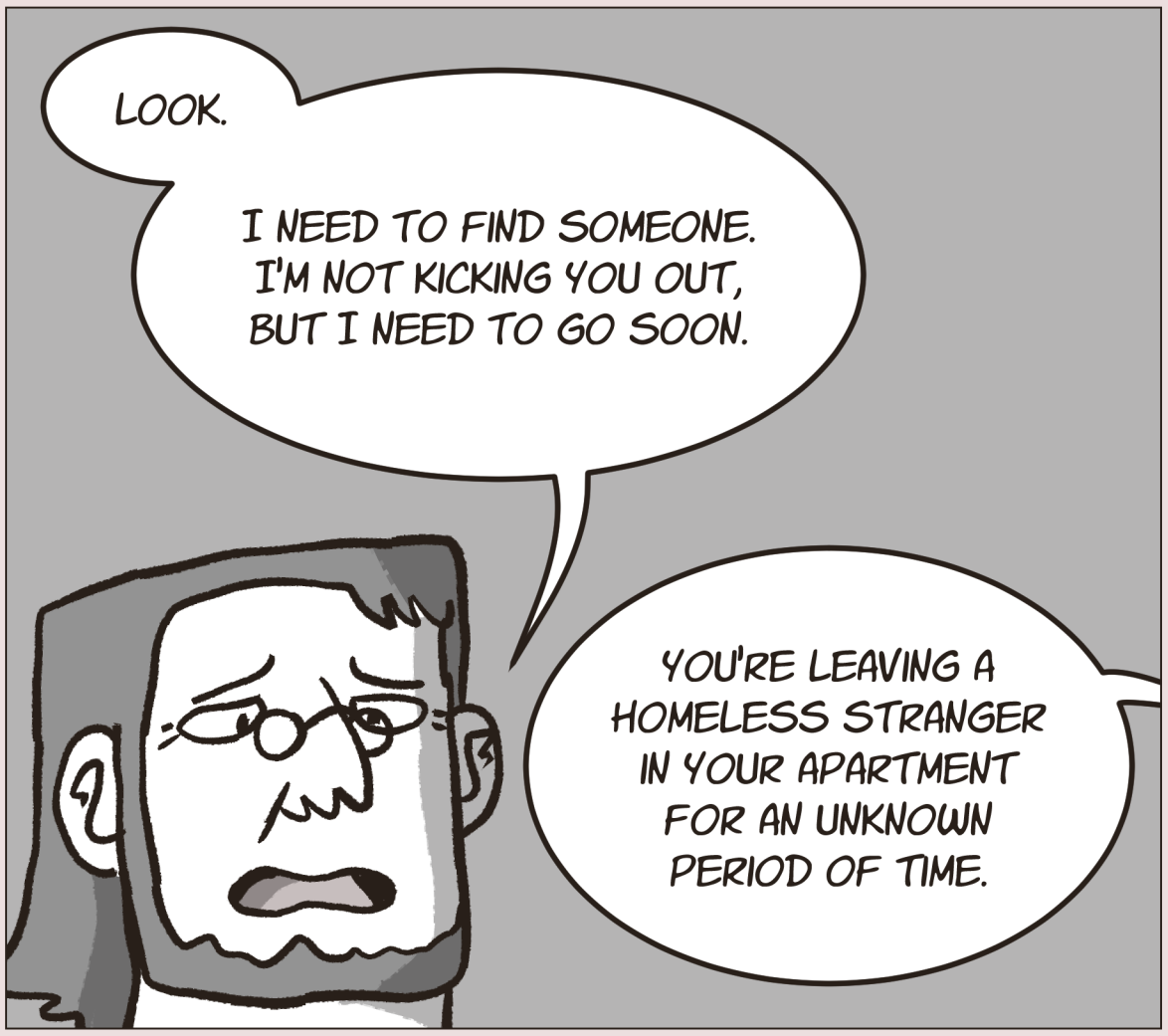
DON'T.

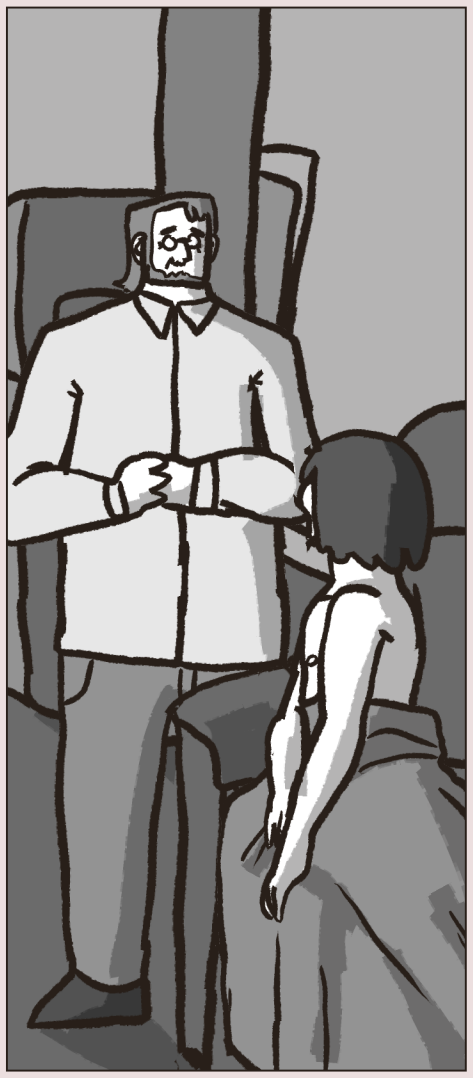
I DON'T NEED YOUR FUCKIN' PITY.

I DON'T WANT TO KICK YOU OUT-

I SAID, I DON'T NEED YOUR FUCKIN' PITY!

YOU CAN STAY HERE.
DID I NOT JUST SAY-
I'M NOT-!


LOOK.
I NEED TO FIND SOMEONE. I'M NOT KICKING YOU OUT, BUT I NEED TO GO SOON.
YOU'RE LEAVING A HOMELESS STRANGER IN YOUR APARTMENT FOR AN UNKNOWN PERIOD OF TIME.



...YES?
YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?

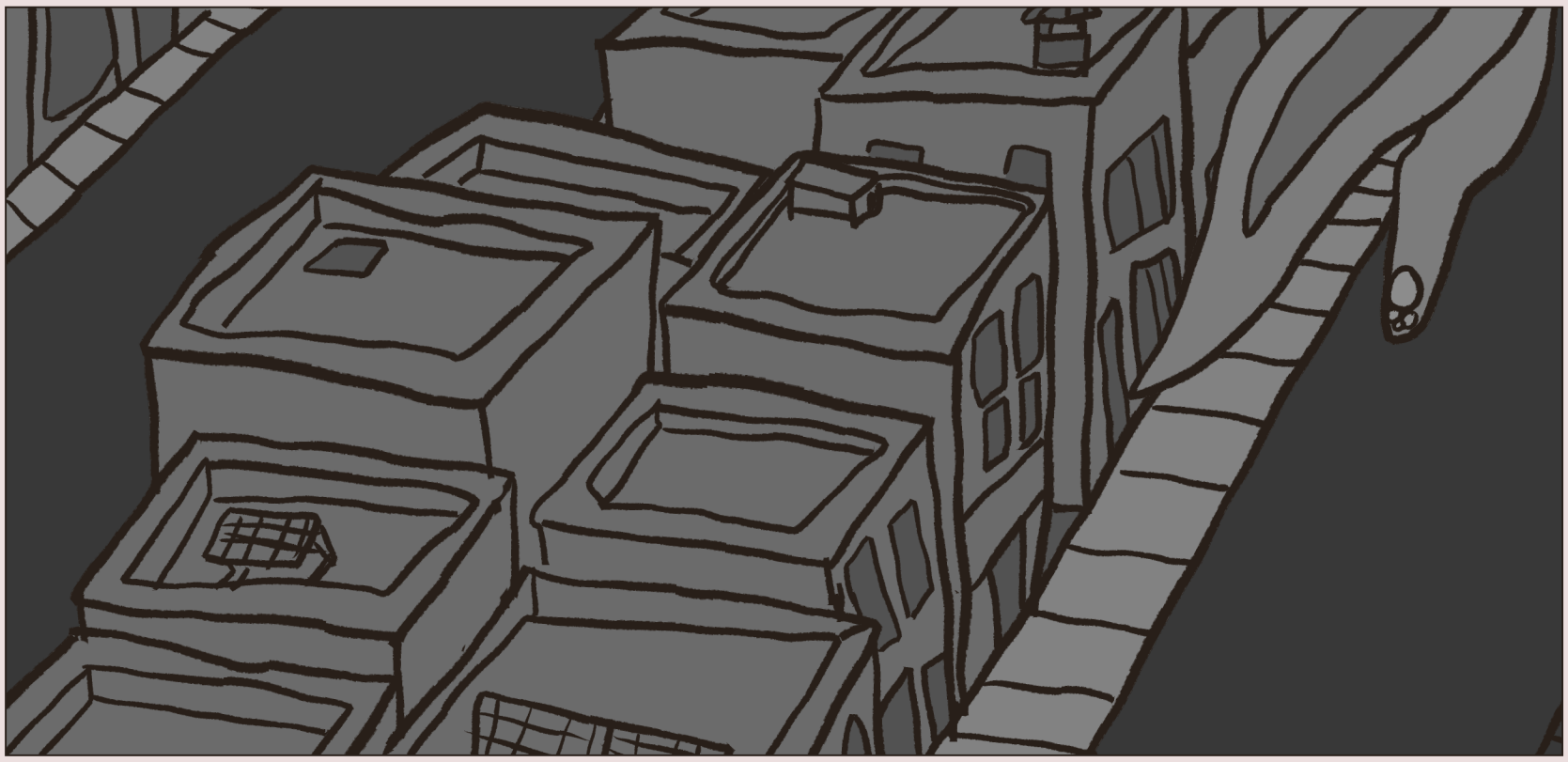
IF YOU REALLY,

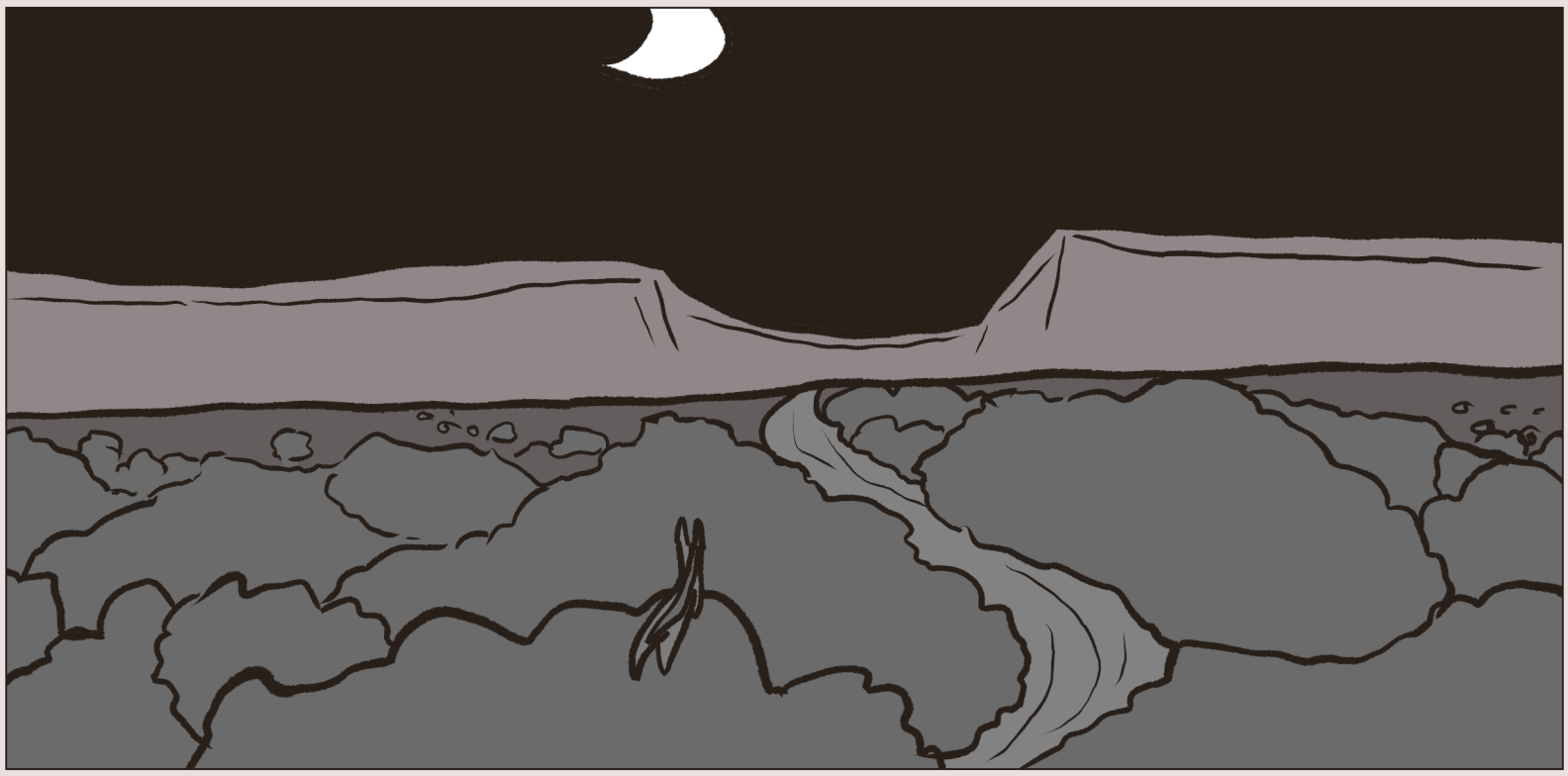
REALLY DO NOT WANT TO STAY, THERE ARE CLOTHES IN MY DRESSER, AND SOME FOOD IN THE FRIDGE.

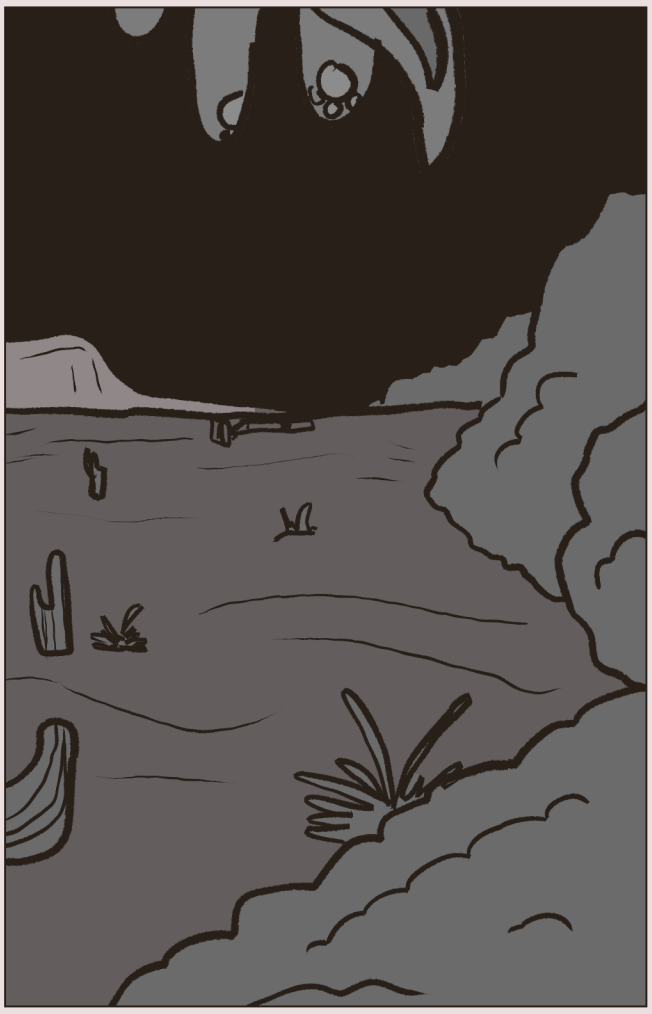
YOU CAN LOCK THE DOOR BEHIND YOU WHEN YOU LEAVE, AND PUT THE KEY ON TOP OF THE DOOR FRAME, BUT I NEED TO GO AND FIND THEM, NOW.

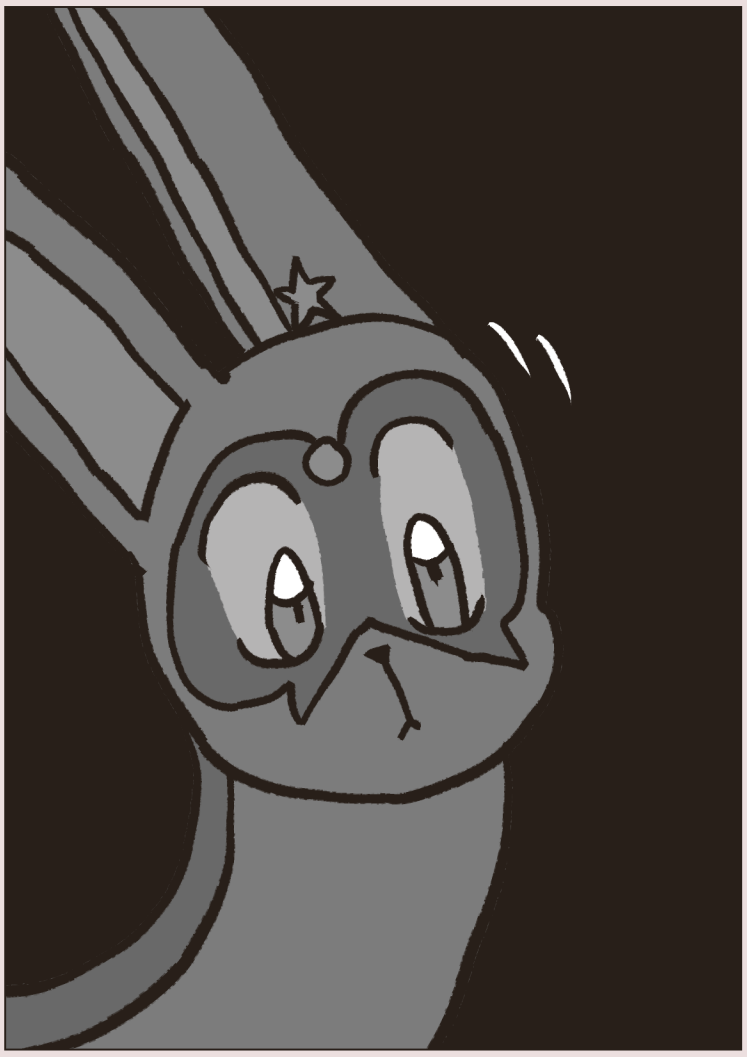
FUCKING WEIRDO.

:SIGH:
WHERE COULD YOU HAVE POSSIBLY RUN OFF TO...

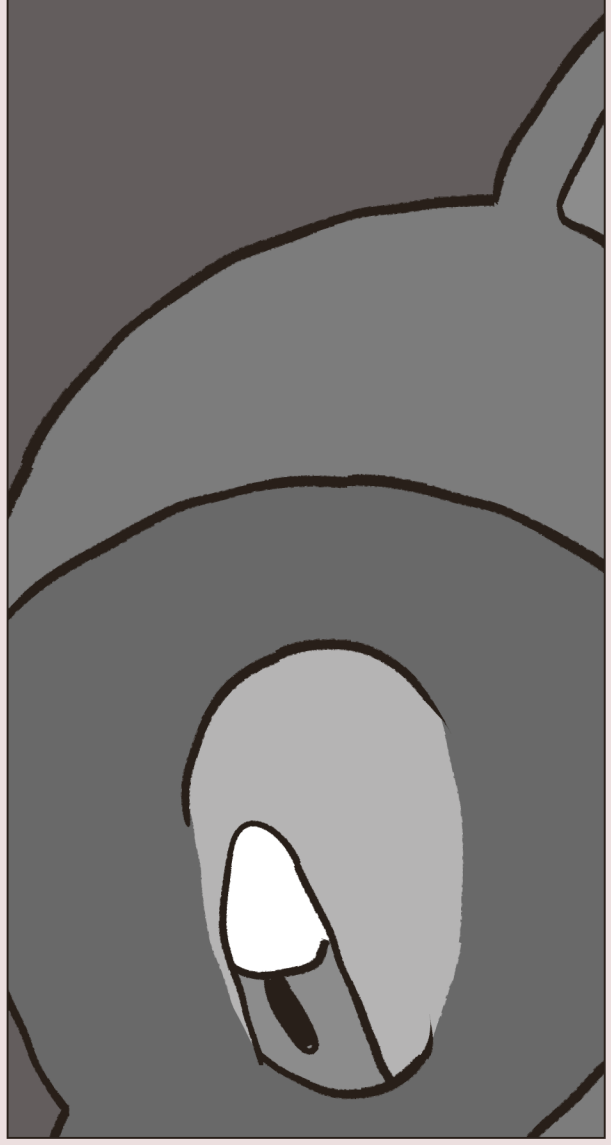


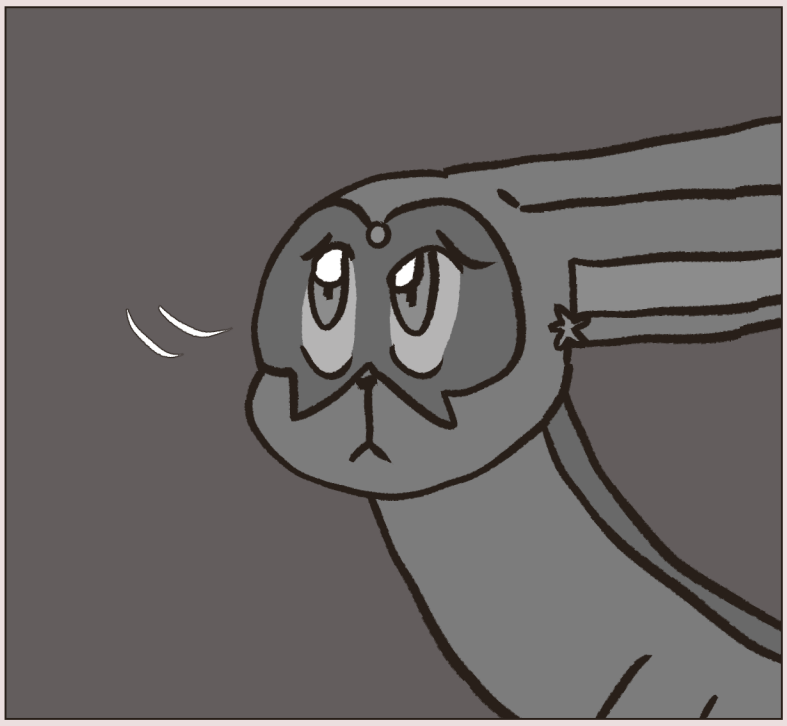






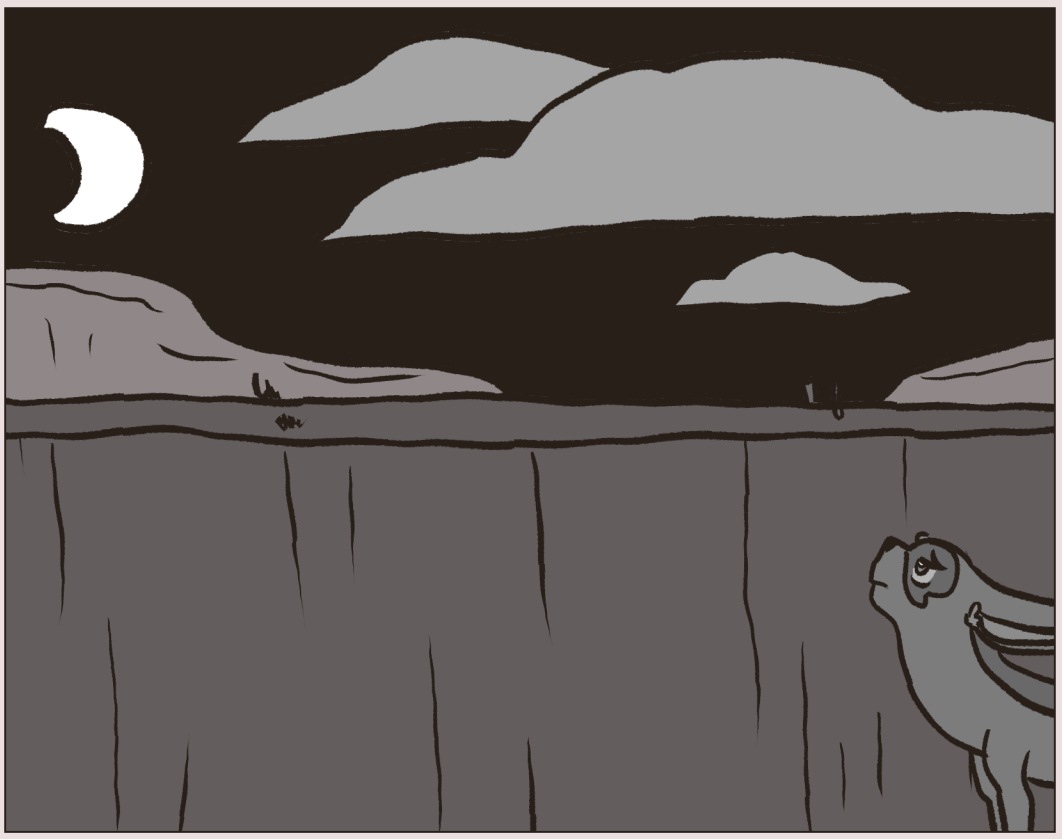
THIS IS WHERE CYRUS SAID HE FOUND THE BOOK.





NONE OF THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR...

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO LEAVE ME...



shhk

Shhk
shhk

shhk
shhk

Shhk

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING HERE?

I WANT TO REMEMBER YOU, BUT...

NO.

I HAVE TO HOLD ONTO MY MEMORIES OF YOU. EVERY LAST ONE...

LIKE WHEN YOU FIRST MADE ME, YOU LOOKED AT ME WITH SUCH HOPE IN YOUR EYES.

EVEN WHEN YOU LEARNED I COULDN'T USE MAGIC, EVEN IF I WAS NO USE TO YOU, YOU KEPT ME AROUND.

YOU BESTOWED UPON ME THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE, AND ALLOWED ME TO LEARN MORE STILL.

BUT YOU DIDN'T TELL ME EVERYTHING,

DID YOU?

NO! IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE KEPT FROM ME, HE PROBABLY DID IT FOR MY SAKE.

HE KNEW I COULDN'T HANDLE IT, SO HE HID IT FROM ME...

AND NOW LOOK AT ME...

OH, CREATOR... WHAT AM I DOING HERE? WHY DID YOU SEAL ME IN THAT BOOK?

I LIKE CYRUS, BUT... HE'S NOT YOU. HE'LL NEVER BE YOU, AND I NEED YOU! MORE THAN EVER,

I NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO. I NEED YOU TO GUIDE ME THROUGH THIS. YOU KNEW EVERYTHING, AND I'M JUST SO LOST.

YOU'D HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS WE NEED, YOU'D EXPLAIN YOUR PLAN AND YOU'D SOUND SO BRILLIANT AND BRAVE. AND YOU...

YOU'D BE PROUD OF ME.

FOR FINALLY BEING WHAT YOU WANTED ME TO BE, ALL ALONG.

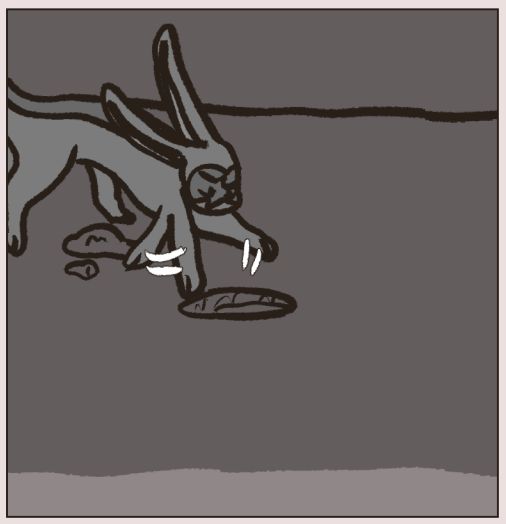
YOU WOULDN'T SCOLD ME ANYMORE, YOU WOULDN'T YELL AT ME,

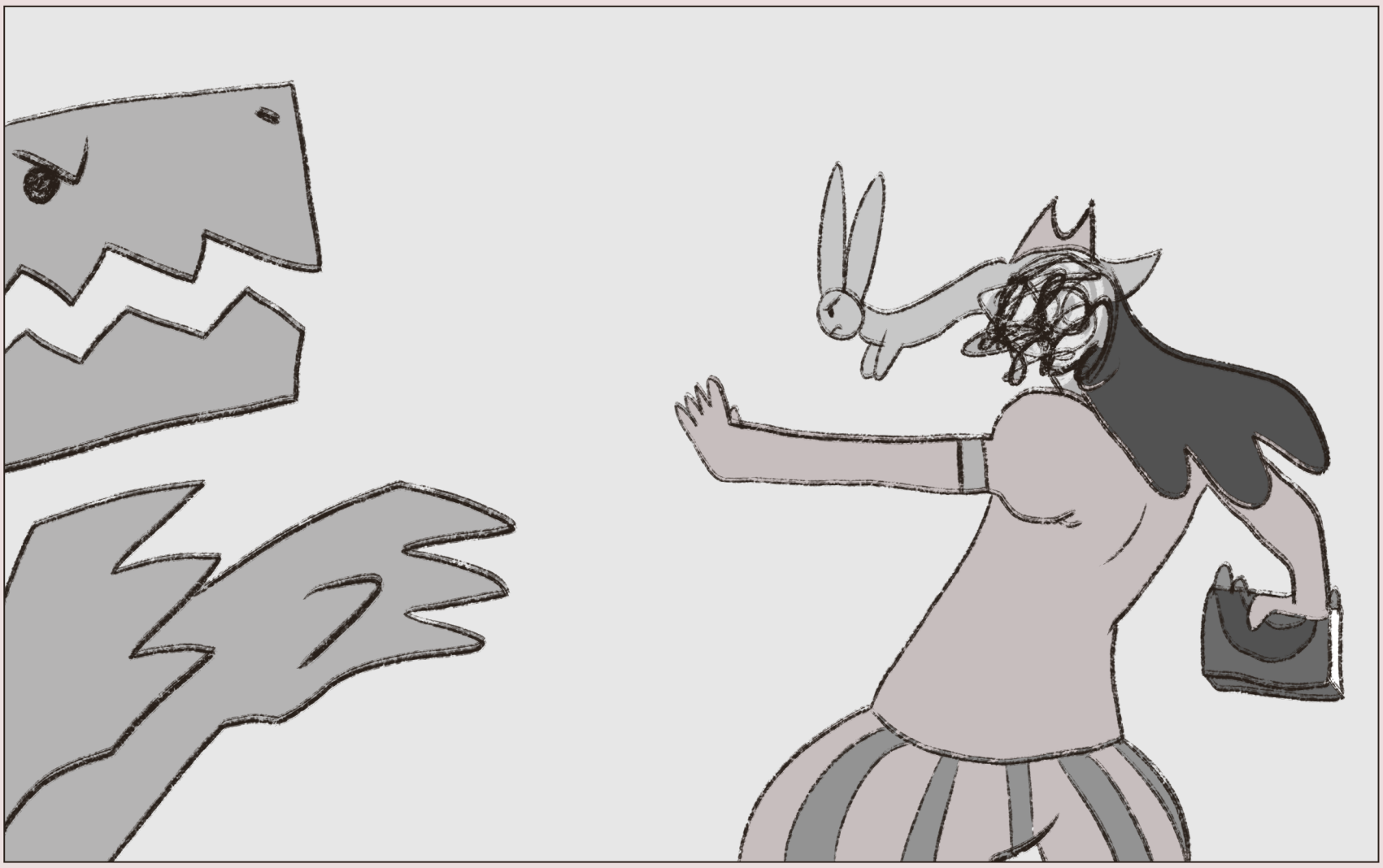
YOU WOULDN'T CALL ME WORTHLESS.

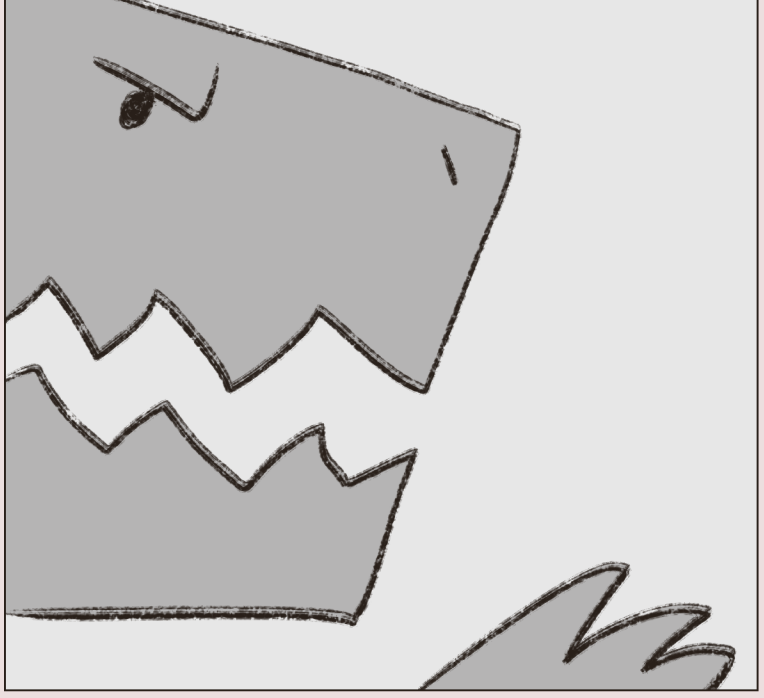
YOU WOULD JUST PET MY HEAD LIKE YOU USED TO,

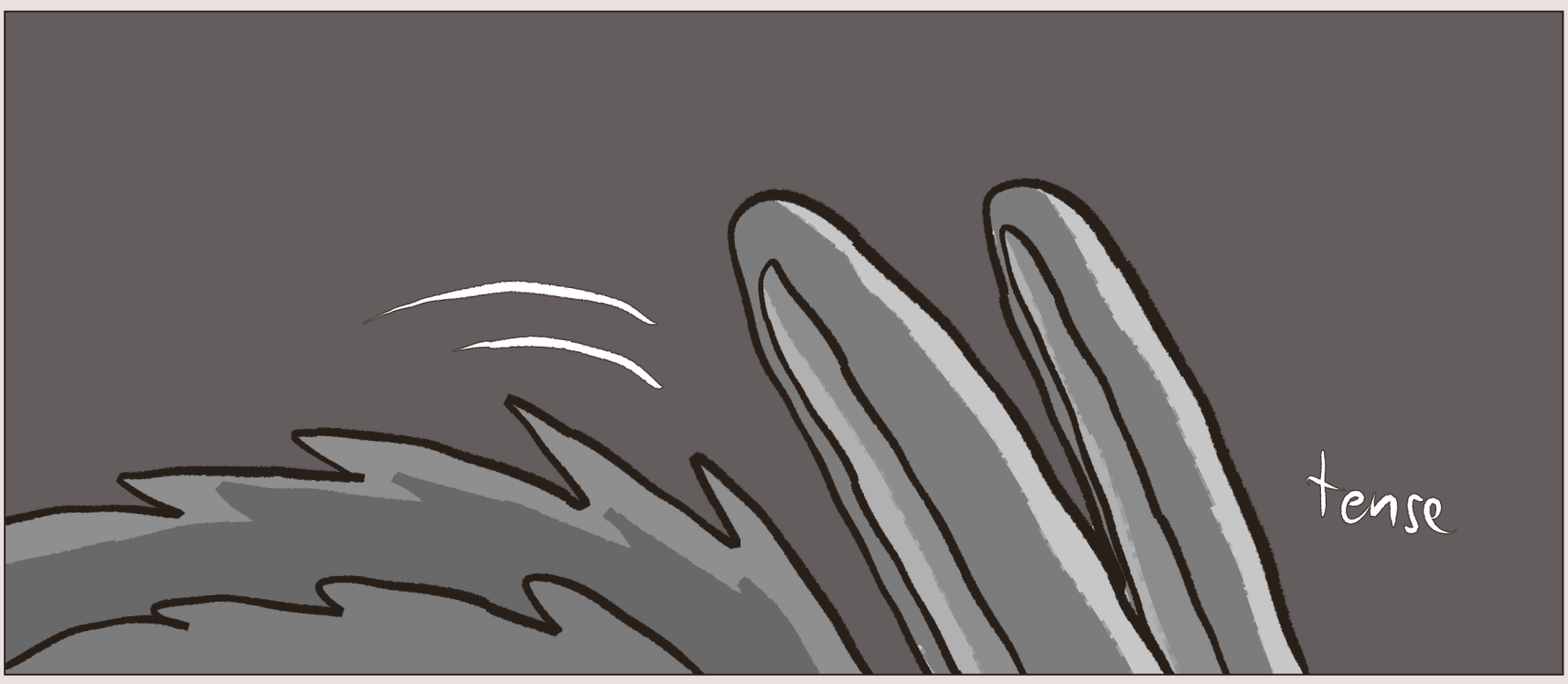
AND TELL ME I WAS GOOD ENOUGH.

AREN'T I?





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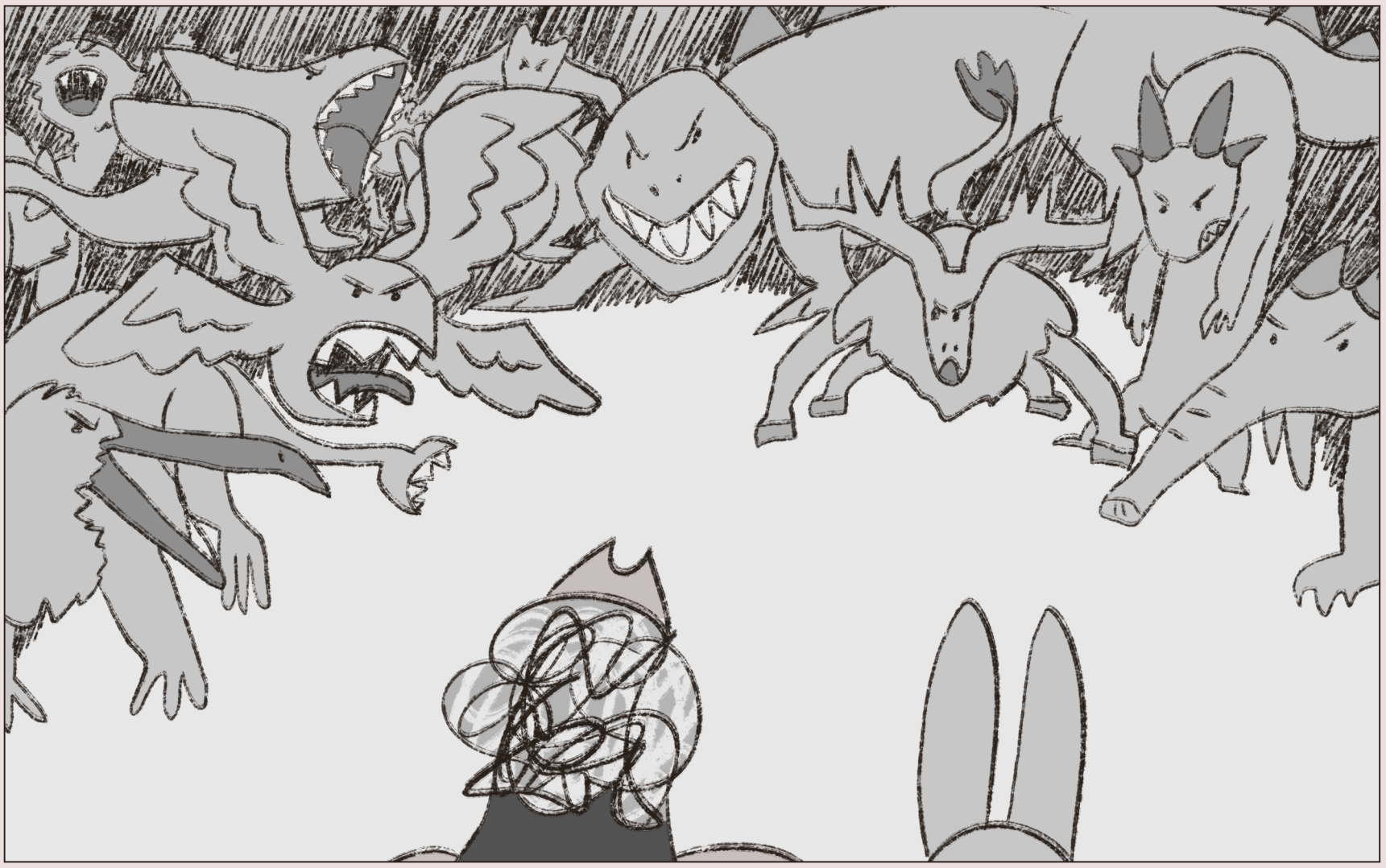
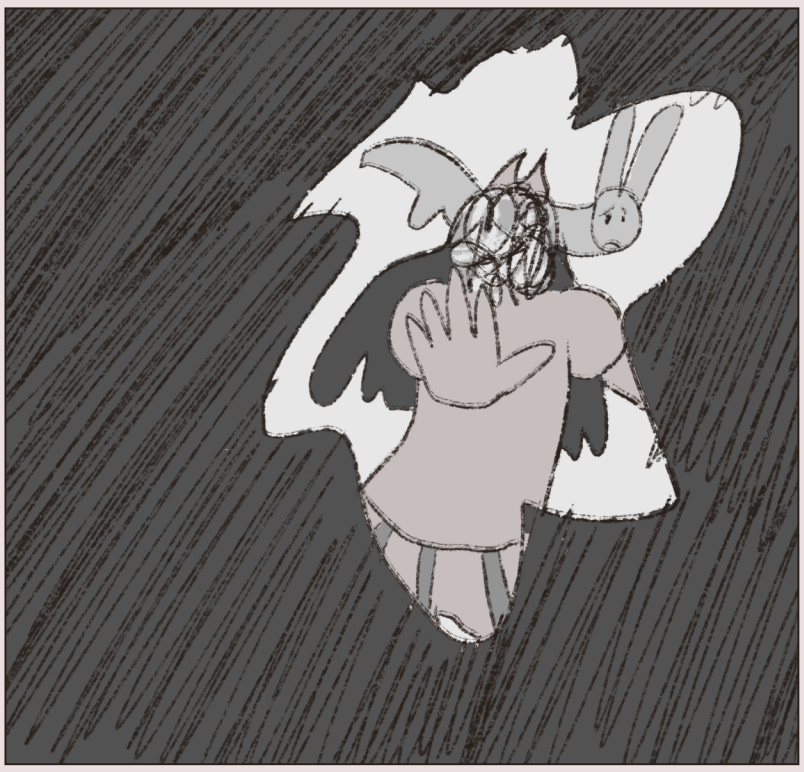
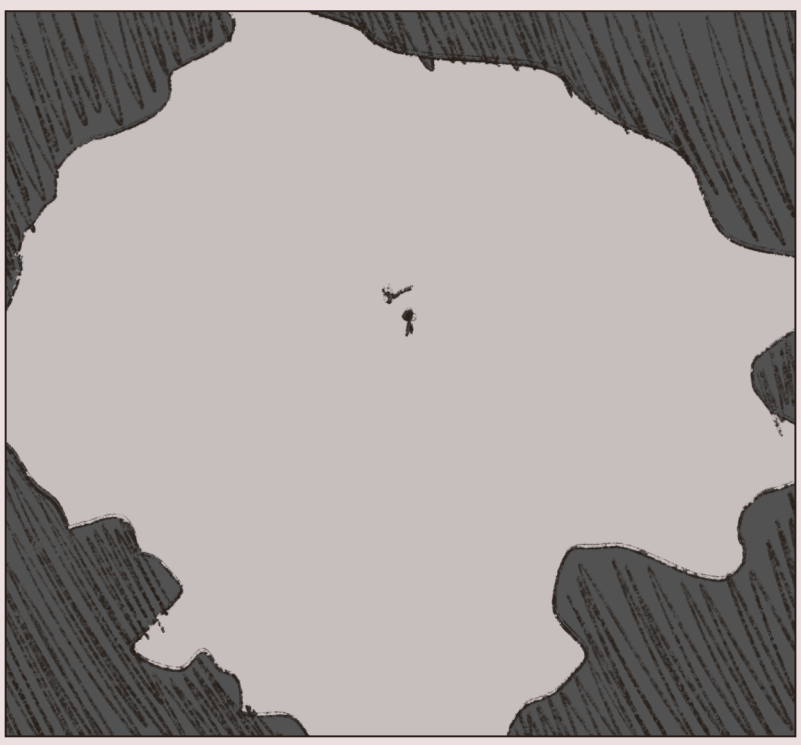
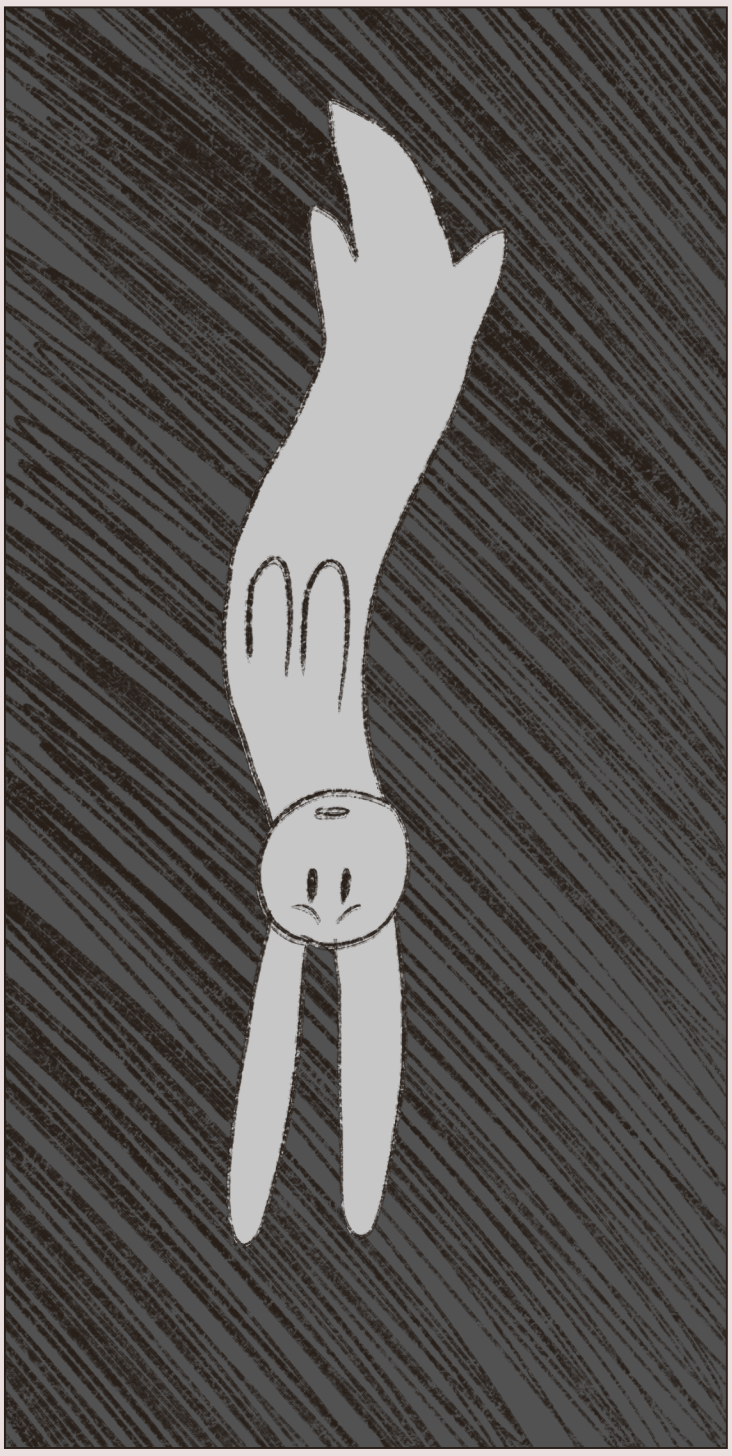
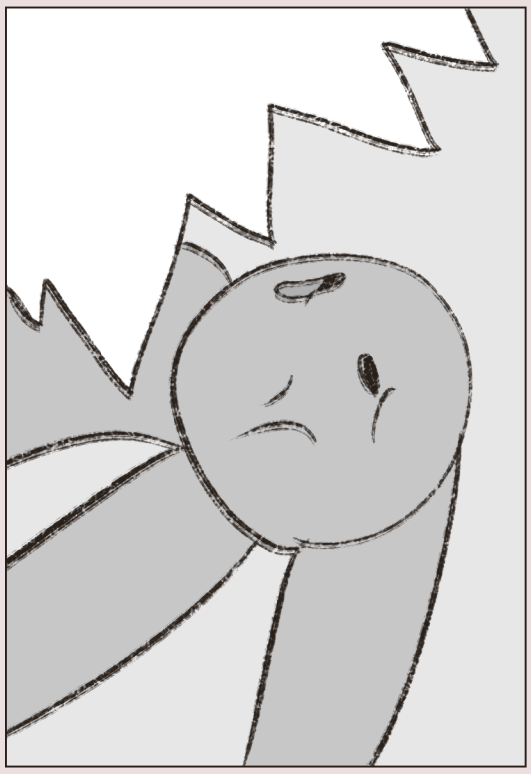
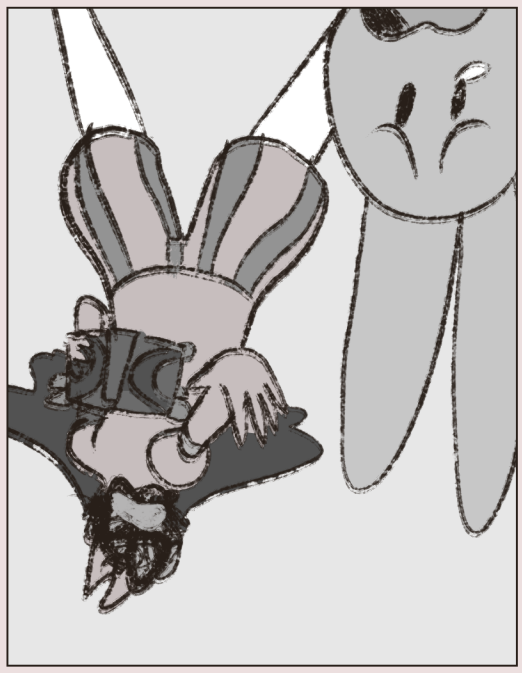


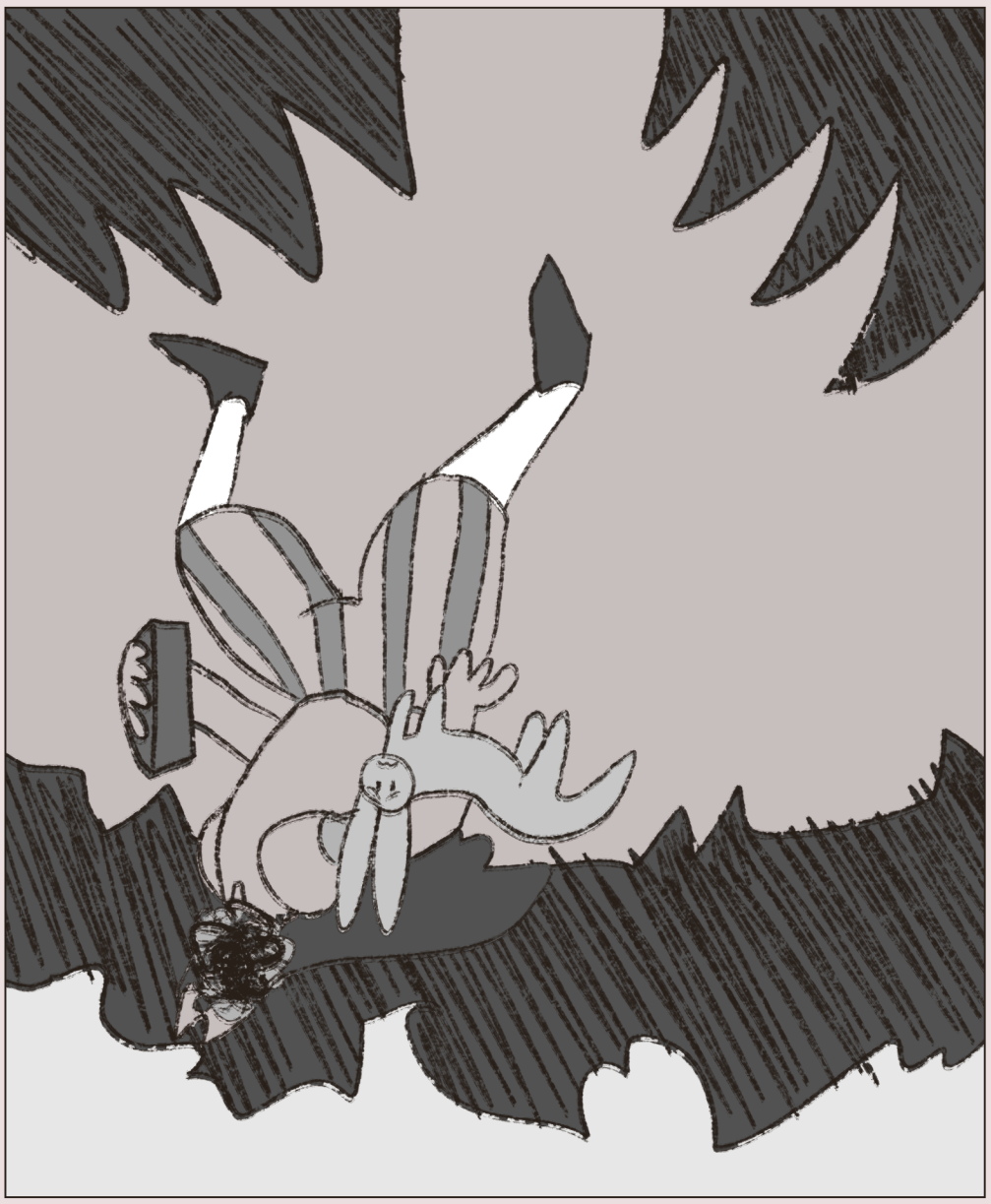


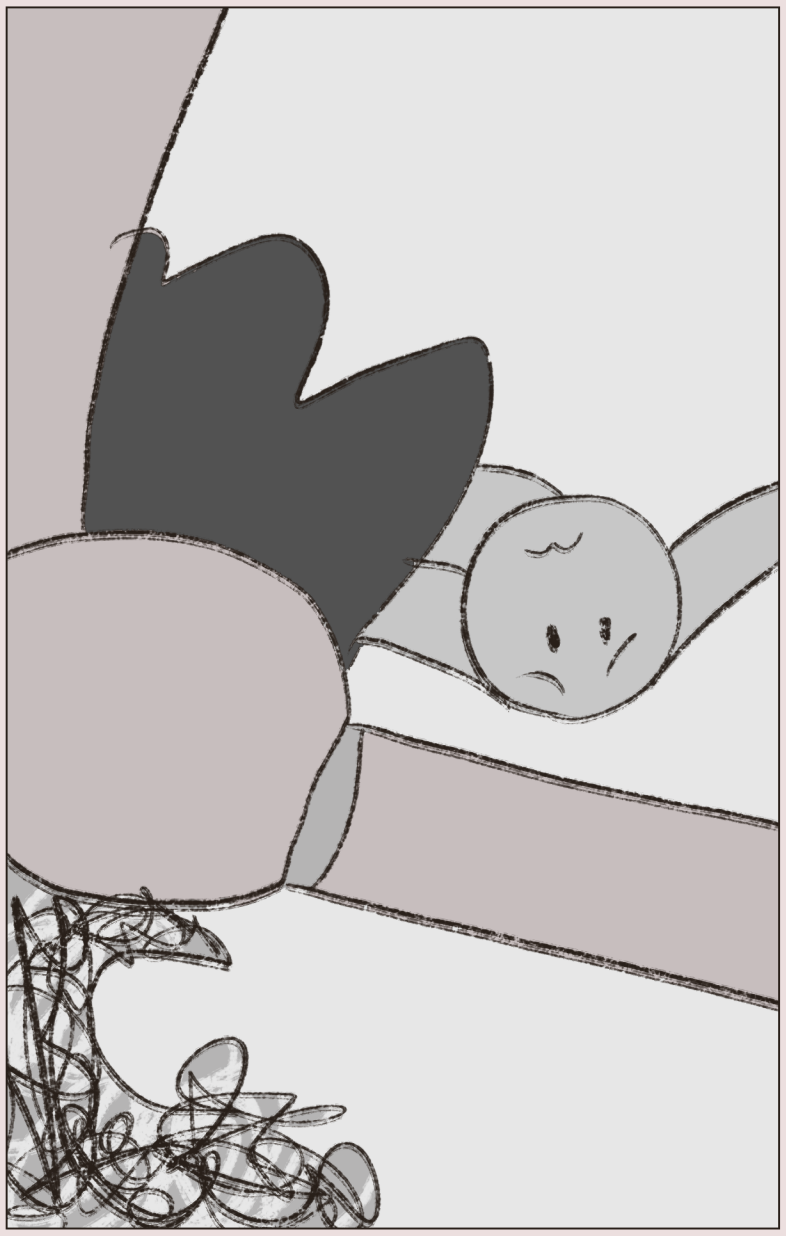


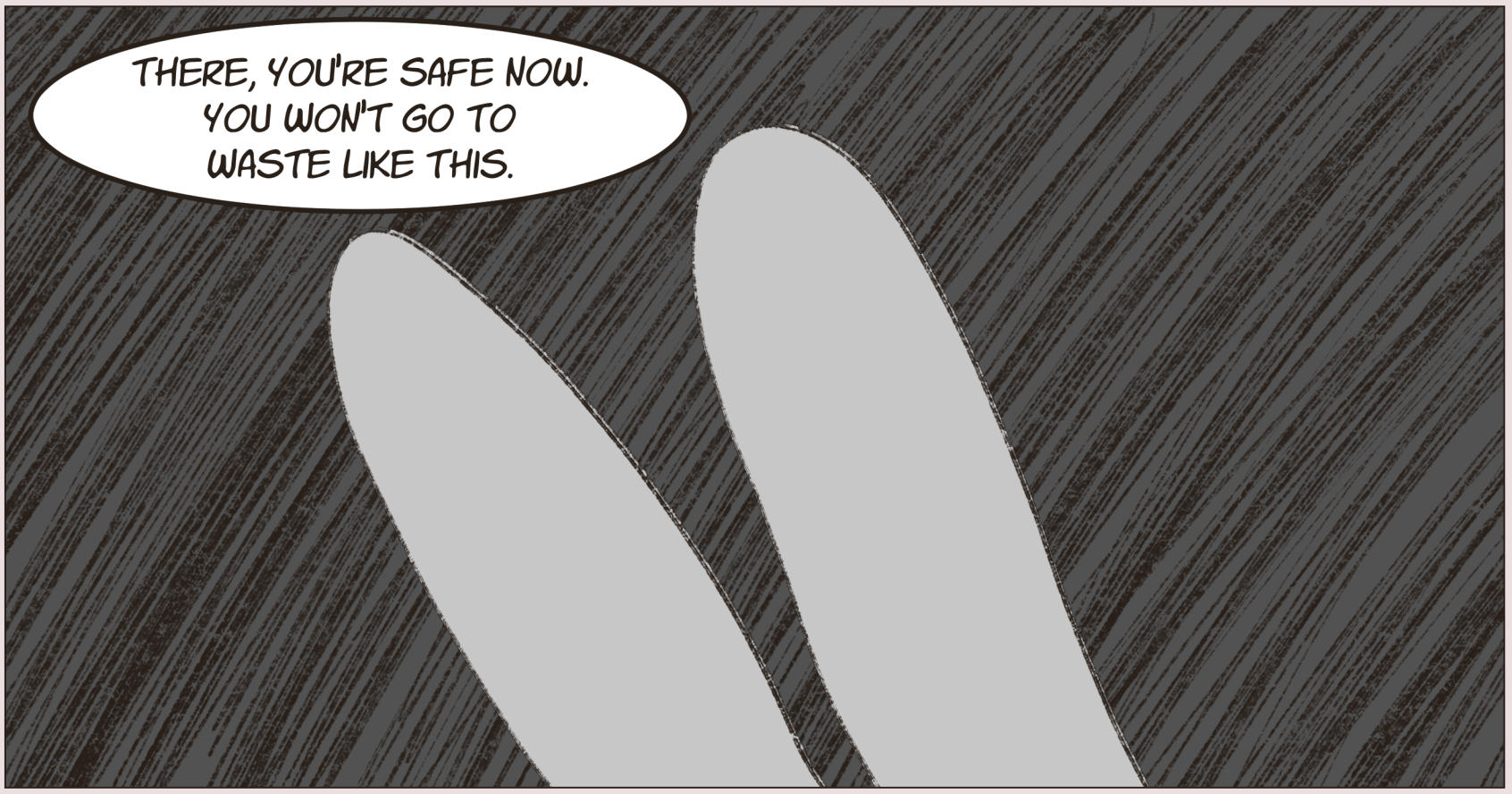




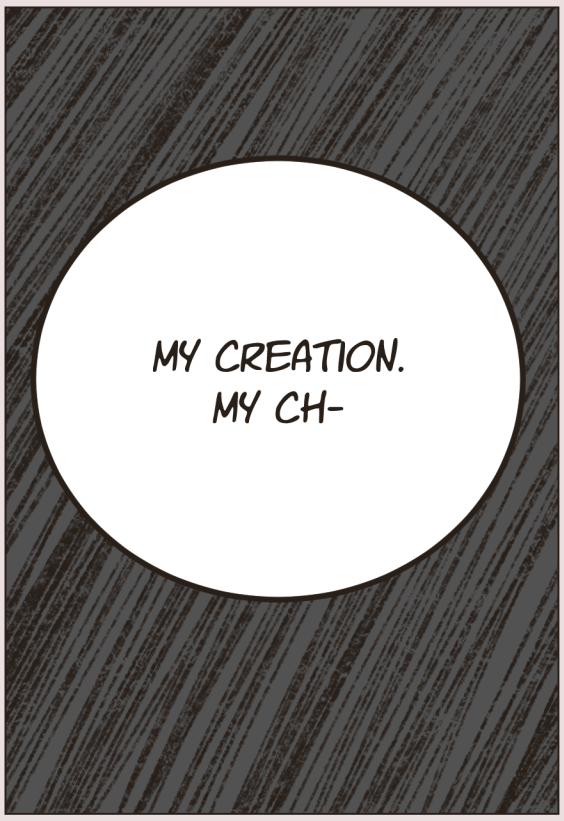


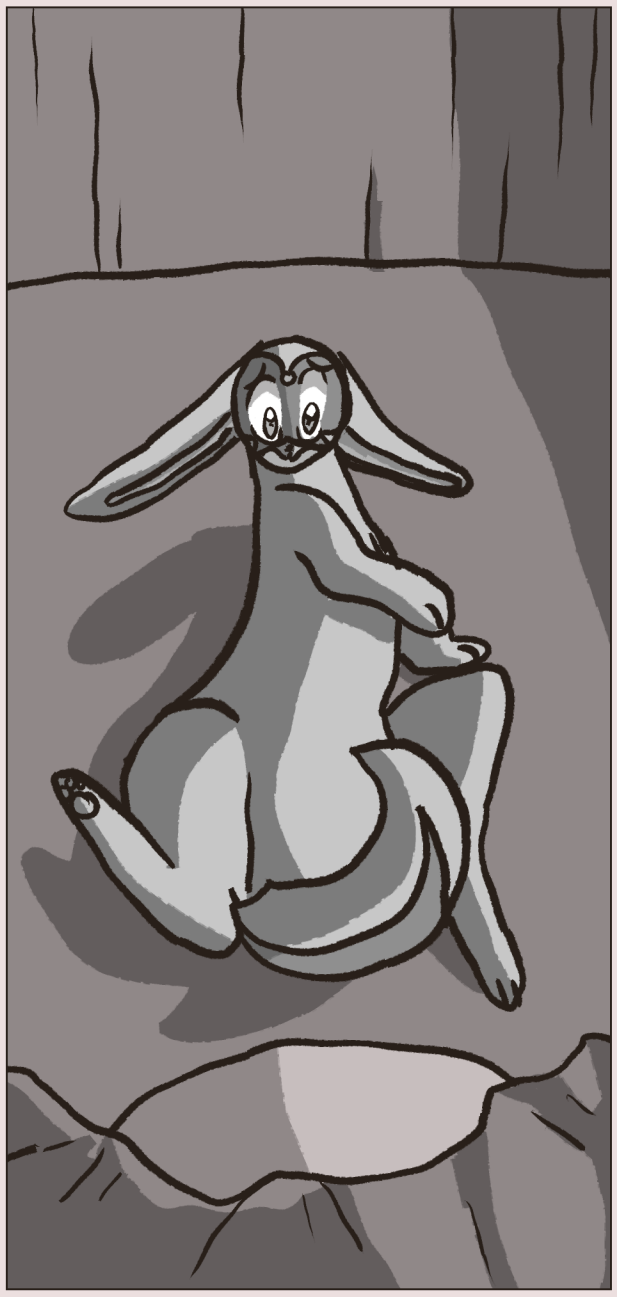


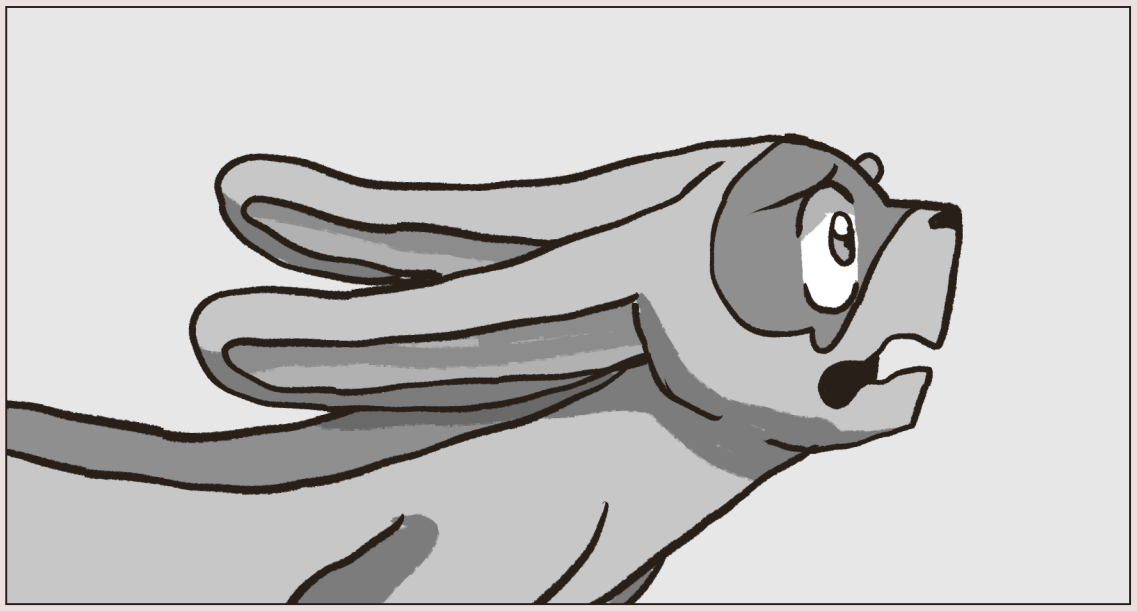


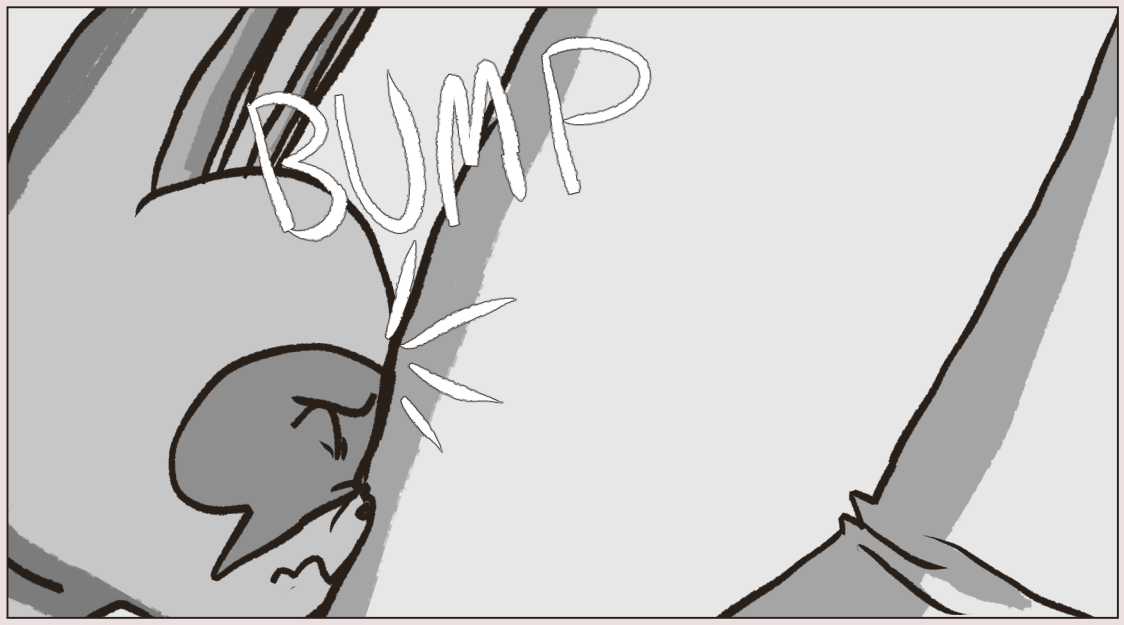

THERE, YOU'RE SAFE NOW. YOU WON'T GO TO WASTE LIKE THIS.

WHERE AM I?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

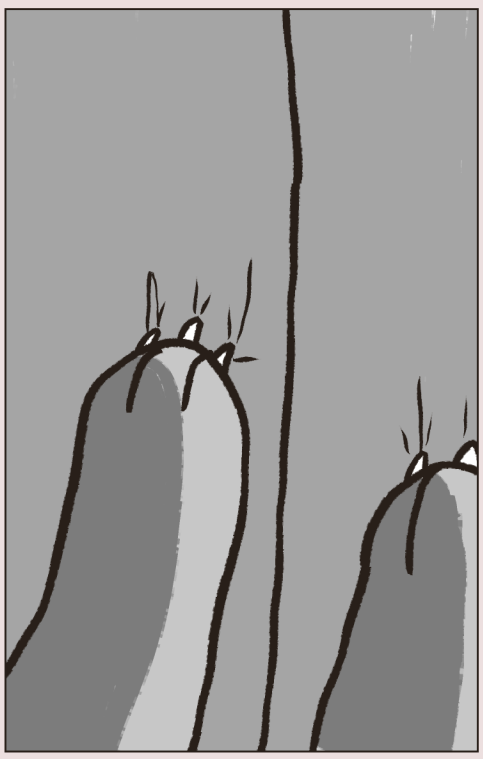

MY CREATION. MY CH-






BUMP

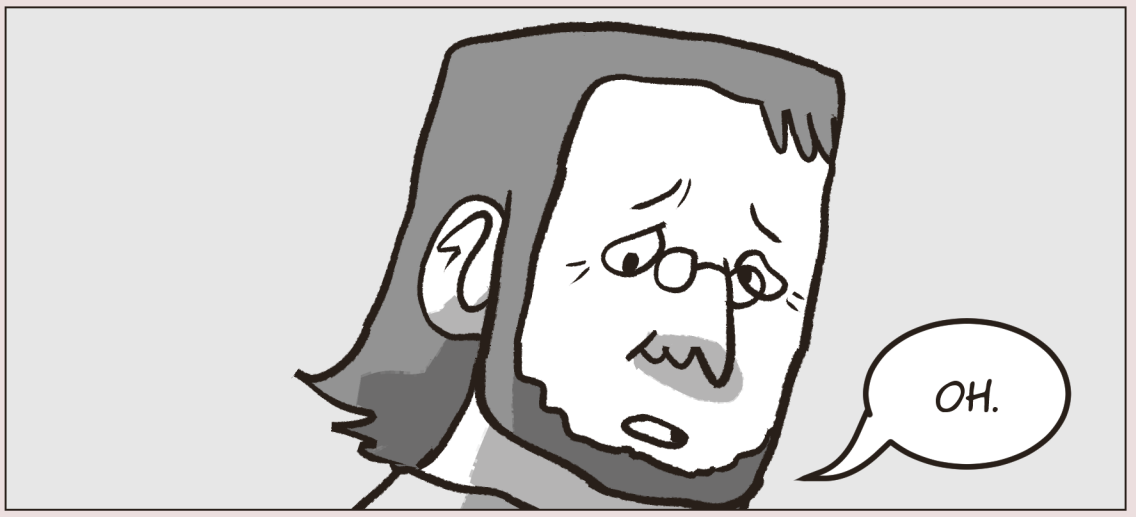
TOPAZ?



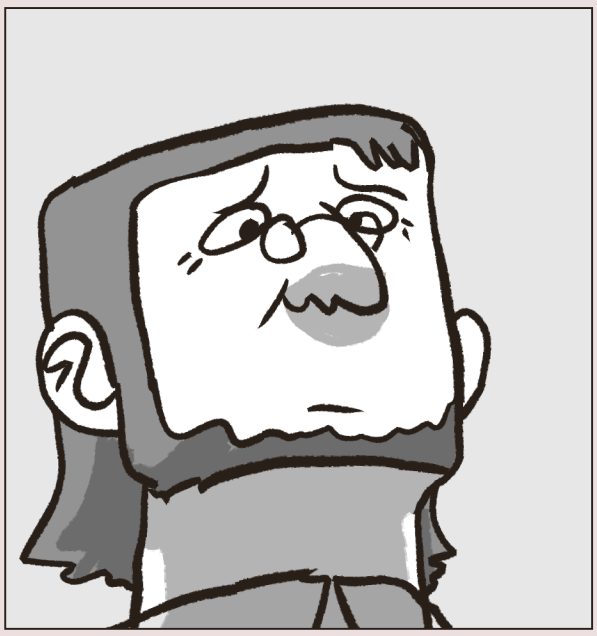
H-HEY, HEY
IT'S OKAY.

YOU'RE FINE.
I-I'M HERE, I-

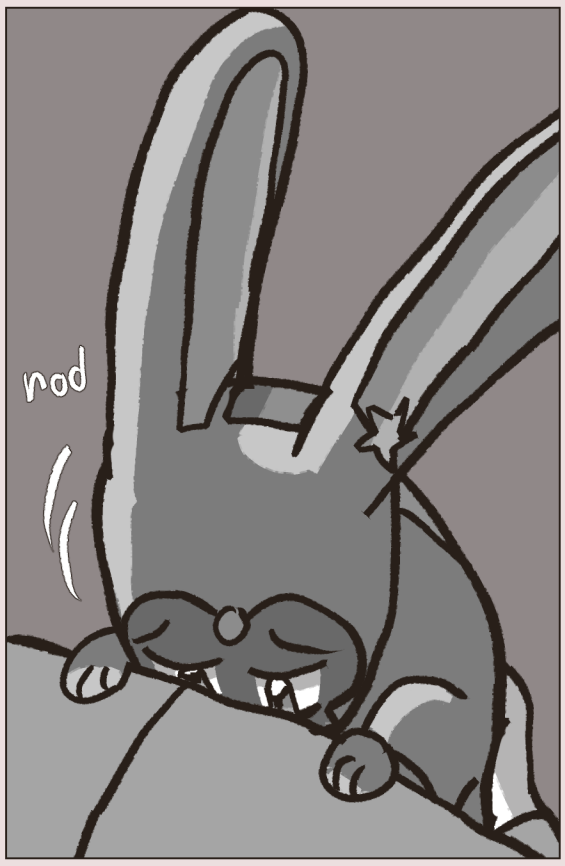
DID YOU
DO ALL
THIS?


OH.

THAT'S A HELL OF A DISCOVERY.
YOU'RE A BIT OF AN ARCHAEOLOGIST YOURSELF, AREN'T YOU?

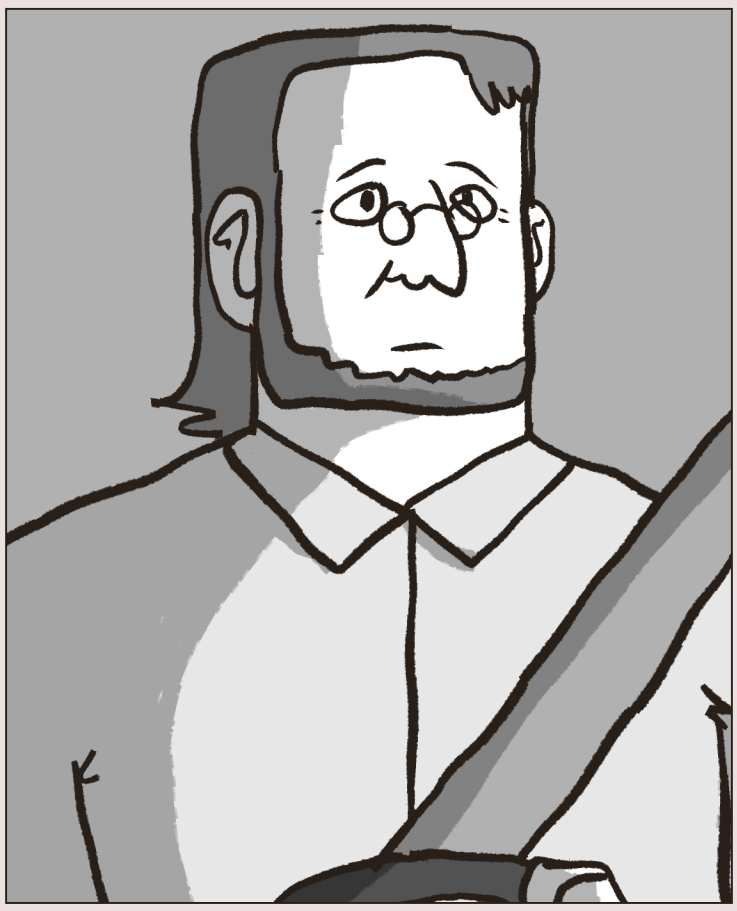


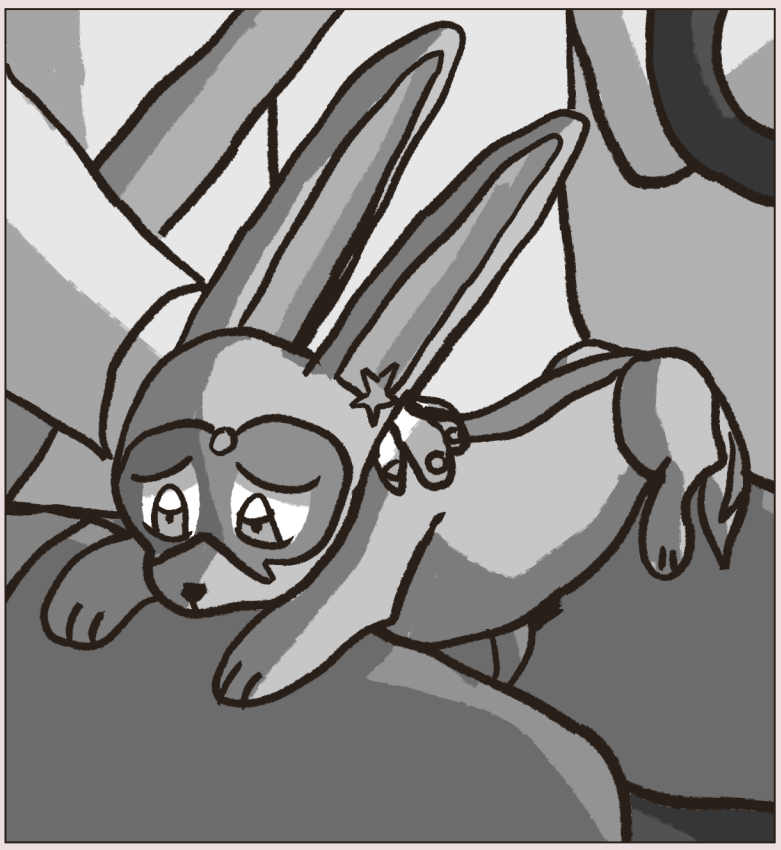
...YOU WANT TO GO BACK HOME?


nod

THE GUYS AT WORK ARE GONNA BE CONFUSED AS HELL OVER THIS.

BUT IT'S SUNDAY, SO IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM YET.





HOW'D YOU KNOW I WAS GONNA BE THERE?

I DIDN'T.

IT WAS THE FIFTH PLACE I CHECKED TONIGHT.

OH.

YAWN

I'M SORRY.

FOR WHAT?

YOU LOOKED ALL OVER FOR ME, YOU- YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO.

I RAN AWAY, AND NOW YOU- YOU WANT TO PUNISH ME.

WHAT? TOPAZ, NO.

I WENT LOOKING FOR YOU BECAUSE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

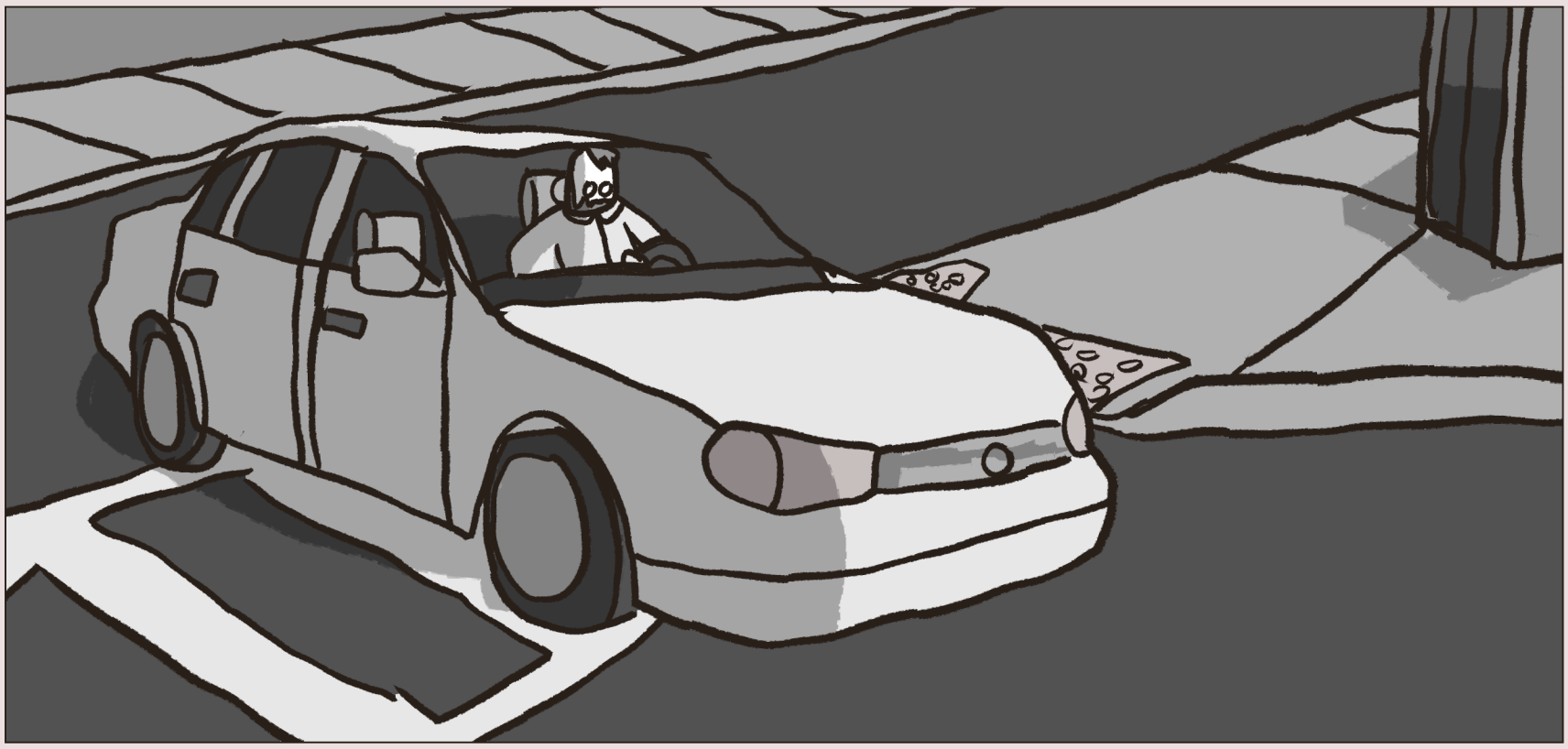
I'M NOT GOING TO-

I DON'T THINK I HAVE THAT KIND OF AUTHORITY OVER YOU.

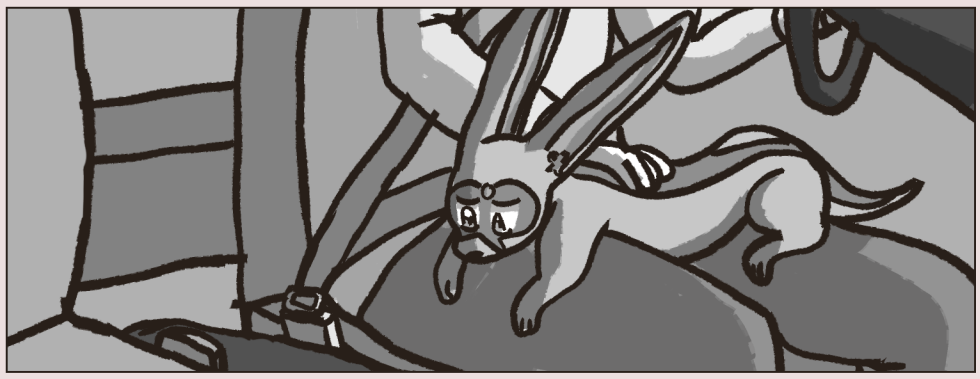
EVEN IF I *DID*, I WOULDN'T *PUNISH* YOU.

YOU GOT SCARED. ANYONE WOULD.

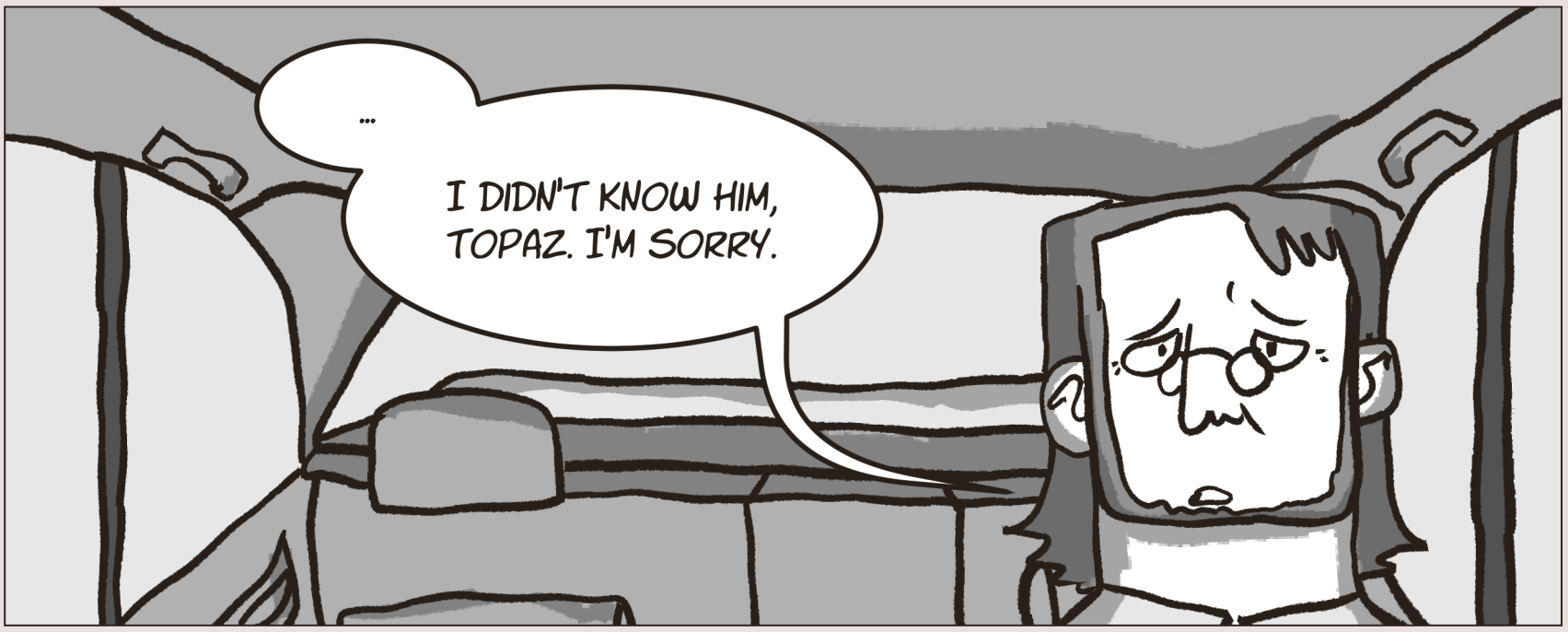
AND I'D BE A HYPOCRITE IF I TRIED PUNISHING YOU FOR THAT.



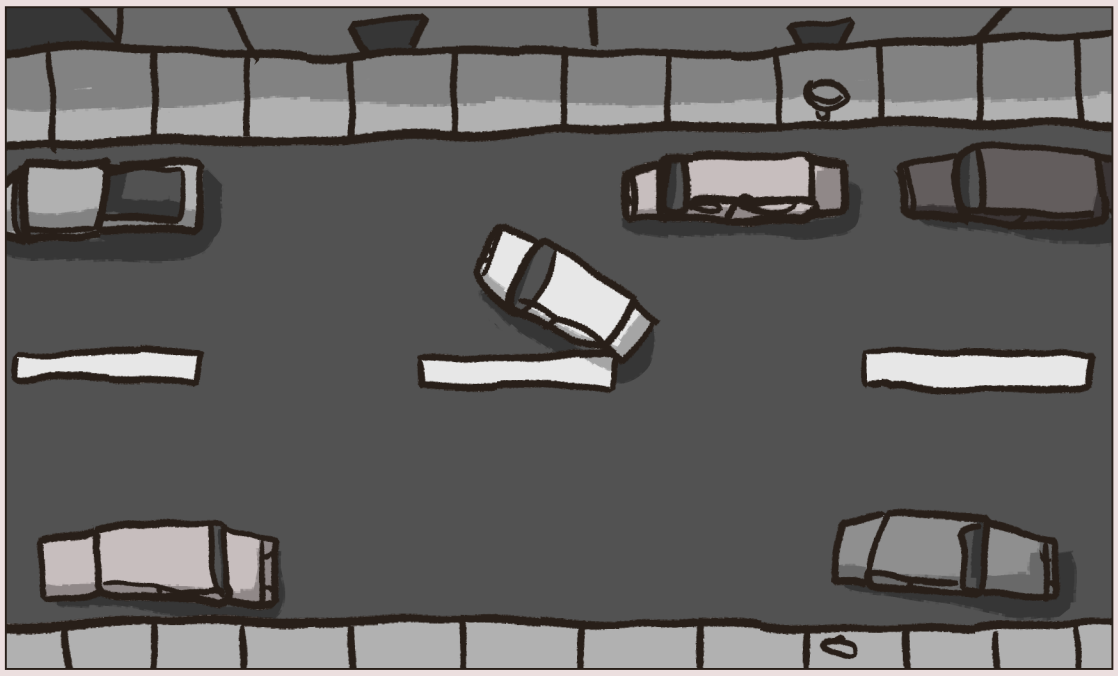
CYRUS?
WHAT IS IT?

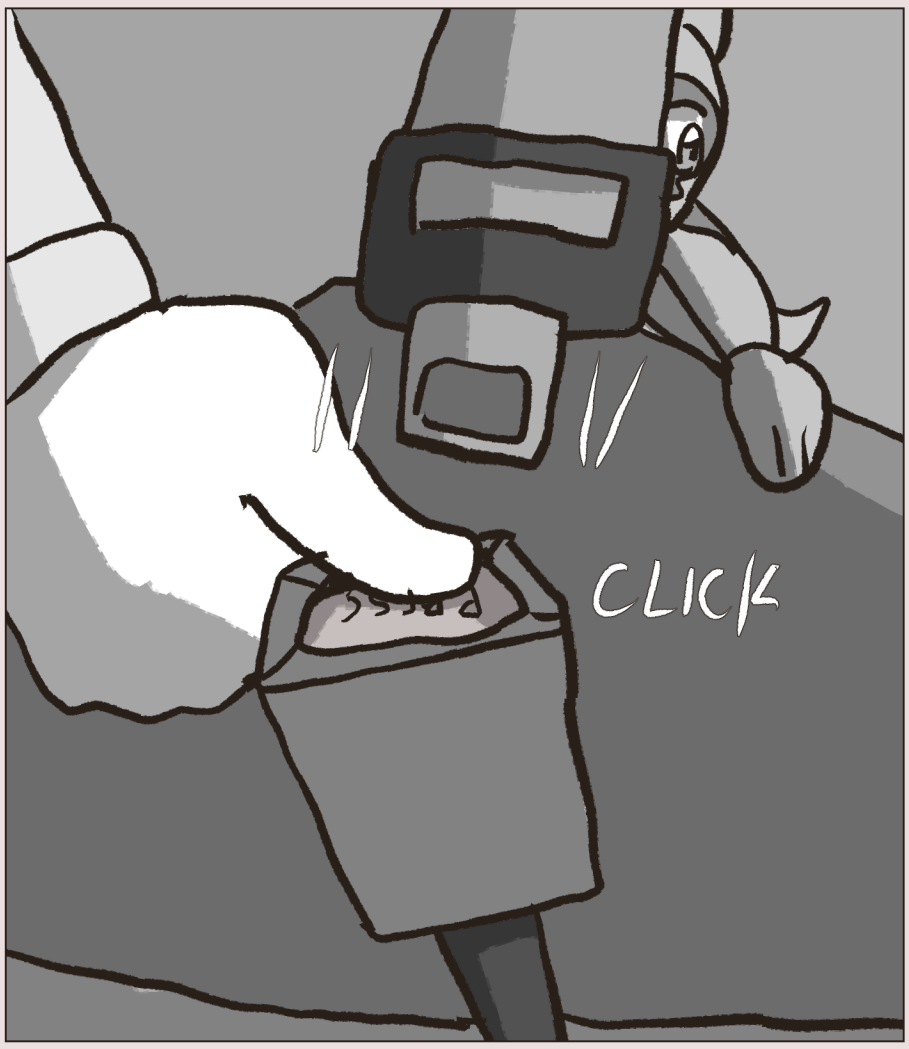


WAS MY CREATOR A GOOD PERSON?


...
I DIDN'T KNOW HIM, TOPAZ. I'M SORRY.

...OKAY.




CLICK

BY THE WAY...
?

THERE MAY OR MAY NOT BE A STRANGER LIVING IN MY APARTMENT FOR AN UNKNOWN PERIOD OF TIME.

AND YOU MAY NEED TO STAY HIDDEN FOR A WHILE.

OKAY.

UH-

W-WAIT, TOPAZ, HOLD ON-

I'M SORRY, I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU EARLIER, BUT IT JUST- WASN'T THE RIGHT TIME.

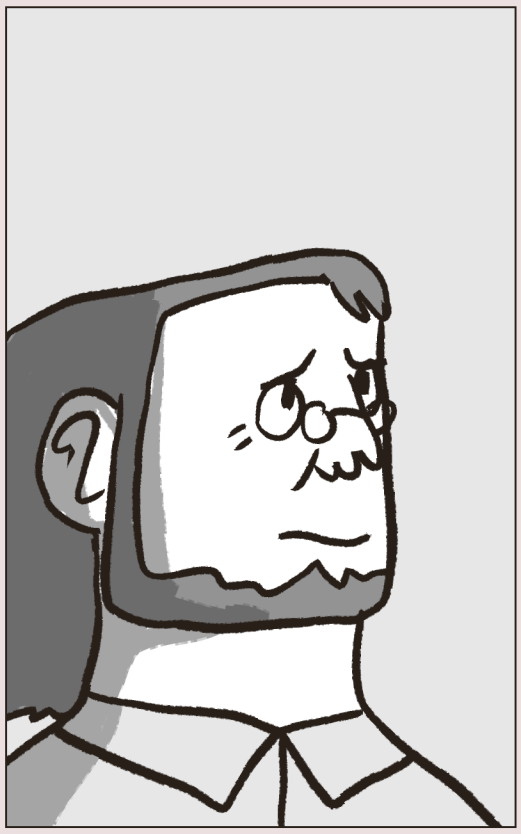
IT'S OKAY, I UNDERSTAND.

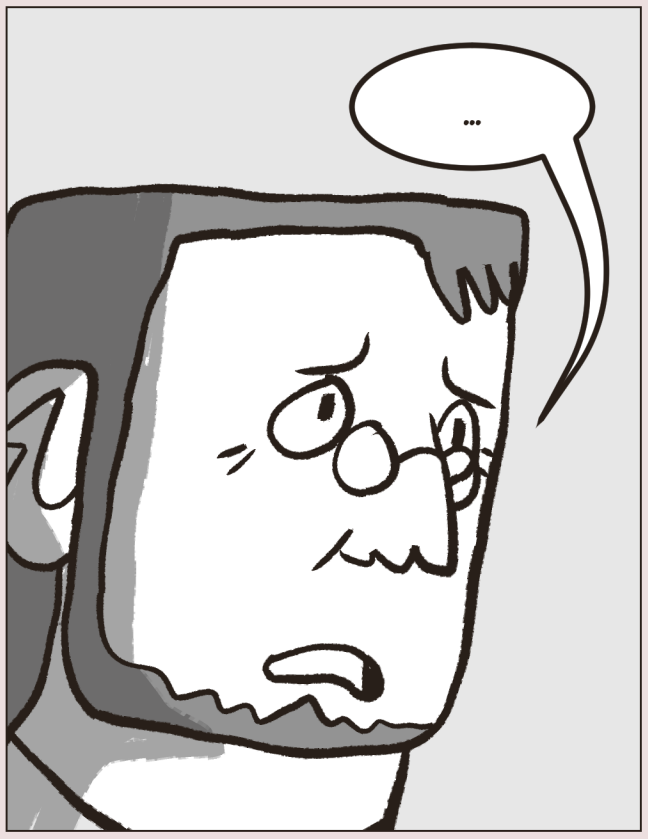
PEOPLE DIDN'T...

GET ME BACK THEN, EITHER.

AS LONG AS YOU'RE SAFE,

I'M HAPPY!

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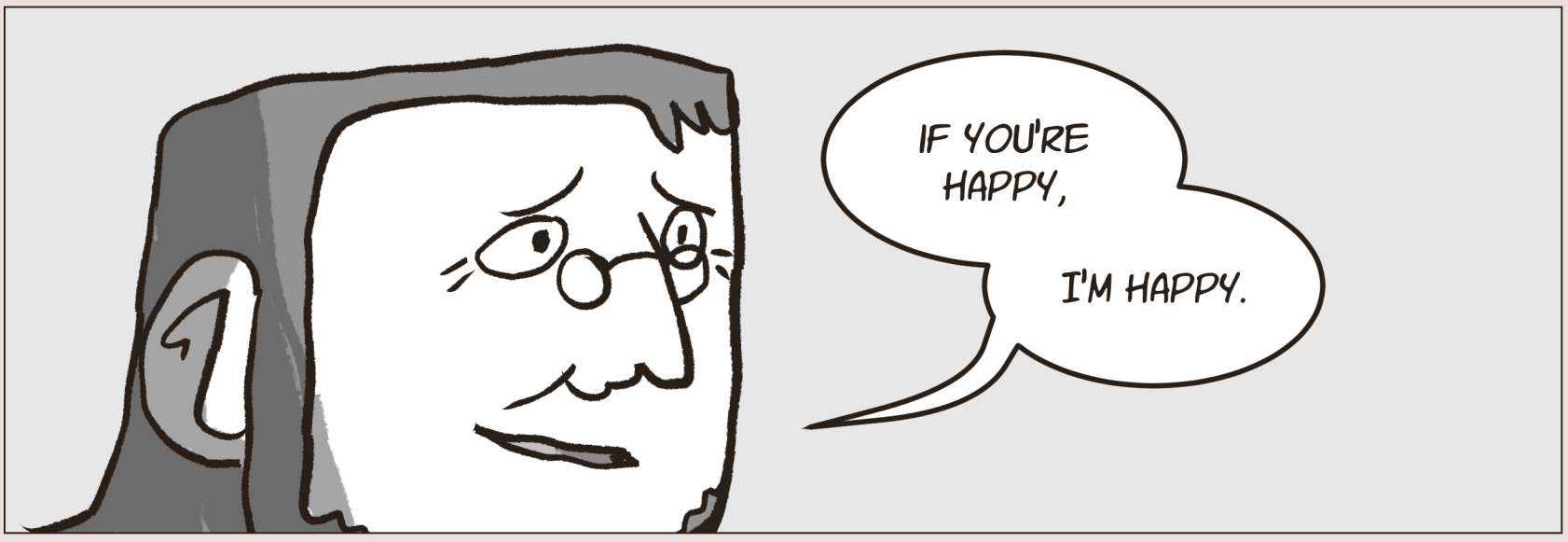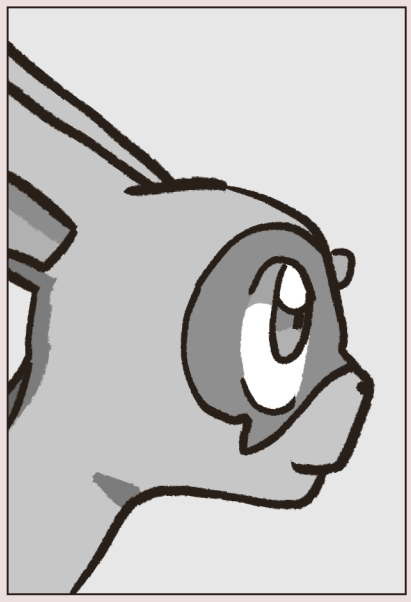
IF YOU'RE HAPPY,
I'M HAPPY.